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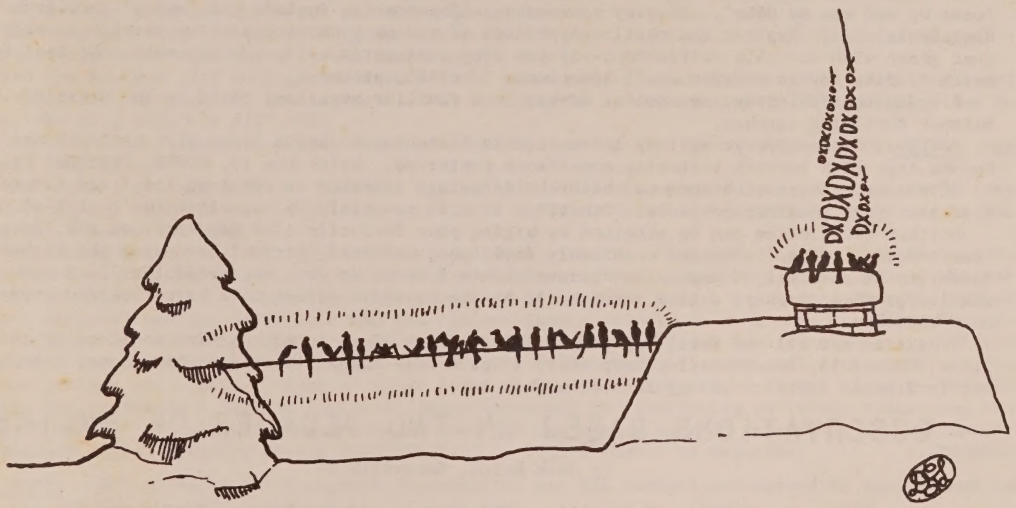
REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING



HAPPINESS IS A WARM HQ180

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DXing ACCORDING TO PLAYBOY!

by Syd Osterman

There has been a recent trend toward introspective articles, analysing shortwave listening and DXing. One such article mentioned the high percentage of unmarried adult males in the hobby ! This probably involves tactile transfer sensations, arising from intimate contact with knobs and switches ! I am more interested in the technology of using the results of such intimacy ! There are others equipped to do Kinsey type computer surveys into the subject of bachelor DXing ! I favour a Hefnerian or 'do it yourself' approach.

Another recent article on DXing stated, "It's not as thrilling once you're there". I intend to use the body of my dissertation to show otherwise ! Top DXers are well equipped to gain added 'thrills' from the hobby.

I suggest that you select a suitably nubile subject, and extend the time-honoured invitation to 'come up and see my QSLs'. Display your cards and pennants, include the 'nudie' card from the Society Islands. Explain the phallic symbolism of the many cards depicting antenna towers ! Ply your guest with suitable refreshment--if you play your cards well, you may make your best ever catch ! Just try to avoid the all too common 'social' catches !

Placing the following, or similar advert in a familiar magazine, could be the preselection of further thrilling catches:

WANTED: Attractive young lady interested in listening to Radio Japan with handsome male DXer. Geisha type with bathtub listening experience preferred. Write Box 13, NOSEX, FREEDOM, IN 382638.

If you experiment with communal bathtub listening, remember to add long insulated extension shafts to your receiver controls. Otherwise it will certainly be the ultimate 'thrill of thrills'!

Further titillation can be obtained by urging your favourite club magazine, or RIB, to adopt the 'centrefold' format ! Perhaps a suitably developed, undraped 'person' caressing the knobs of your favourite DX machine! I emphasize 'person' since I have, so far, neglected thrills for the fair sex ! For them, perhaps a good start would be the harmonic effect of a bare, bearded broadcaster, on a bearskin !

Provision for all the thrilling proclivities of top DXers is not within the scope of this article. Hopefully others will takeup where I leave off--meanwhile, please excuse me, I must rush off to find my Joystick and my favourite whip !

OBSERVATIONS BASED ON TWO DECADES OF SWLing

by Jack Belck, Knoxville TN

1. The BBC's use of "Mister" is silly. Did they so address Hitler, Stalin and The Beast of Belsen?

2. Many SW stations send trash to the US; excellent, meaty fare to other places. Deutsche Welle is a prime example.

3. All SW stations spend too much time telling us who says what, not enough on who does what and who, on the basis of expert testimony, is likely to do what. For example, we have heard 10^{26} words from Khomeini and our leaderless fear, Prexy Kharter, on the hostages--but nothing has been done by either side to affect the situation.

4. Excepting only New Zealand, back when I could get them, there seems to be a direct correlation between the weakness of a shortwave station's signal and the quality of its programs. The reverse does not apply.

5. None of the Bible stations (and the ones housed in hostile countries may be forgiven) ever seem to openly and forthrightly air the subject of religious persecution in this and that land.

6. There would be much more useful SW space if the hams were driven off. How to do it? Amend FCC regs so that all must use identical equipment; all must desist discussing equipment problems; and none is allowed to talk about the weather. With these few minor restrictions, 99% would give up and go back to watching TV, or bowling.

7. Despite all the computer-backed, scientific frequency switching month in and month out, you are as likely to get a good signal from a station's broadcasts directed somewhere else as you are on the one aimed right at you.

8. Upright biggies and mean smallies all transmit outside the 'official' bands when they feel like it. The only limit that nobody ever seems to mess with is right above 49 meters. /gh: oh yeah'

9. Imperfect though it often is, SW is far superior to 8-track-cum-commercials of our MW senders.

10. The only short wave station displaying irreverence and a sense of humor regularly is RCI. Everyone else seems deathly in earnest. Is Osterman aware of this singular phenomenon?

1979's LEGAL WINNERS & SINNERS

1979 marked a surge in the recent trend of taking grievances--no matter how large or small--to court. CBS News Law Correspondent Fred Graham in a recent broadcast of FIRST LINE REPORT identified some of 79's legal winners and sinners:

In 1979, Americans continued the recent trend of increasingly taking their troubles to court. The results are a rich commentary on the American way of life as the 1970s come to an end.

Among the winners, for instance, were the following:

A Connecticut bureaucrat who hurt his ankle while playing ping-pong on the job and won a judgement making the taxpayers pay for a work-related injury.

Members of the Bar Association of the state of Oregon who won a ruling that it is not a breach of legal ethics to have sexual intercourse with women divorce clients.

A 12-year-old student in Virginia who sued his teacher for borrowing his bike and having a flat and who won a judgment against the teacher for $10.

A woman visitor to Disney World in Orlando, Florida, who alleged that Pluto kicked her and ruined her sex life and who won a $4500 damage settlement.

Two teen-age students in Illinois who won a court order that they don't have to attend gym classes with other students who wore immodest gym suits.

And the husband of a Michigan woman who broke her toe in a car wreck and settled out of court for $20,000. Her husband, Lonnie Moore, sued for loss of her companionship while her toe was hurt --and the jury gave him $180,000.

But perhaps even more revealing about present-day America are the stories of some of the legal losers last year:

There was the seven-year-old child in Springfield, Illinois, who was run over by a car driven by an off-duty cop; the second policeman gave the child a ticket for jaywalking as he lay on the hospital examination bed.

Then, there were these citizens who sued and lost: the divorced woman in New York who sued to make her former husband turn over their pair of hockey tickets; the former Yale graduate who got miffed at Yale and sued to have any reference that he was ever a Yale man erased from the University's records, and the California man who claimed that a television talk show host had offered him $100,000 for a daring feat, and who sued for the right to be tied in a straightjacket with his hands and feet handcuffed, and dropped into a 2,000-gallon tank of water, all on network television.

But perhaps the bleakest story of legal losers concerns a high school civics class in Vassalboro, Maine, who conducted a test of citizens' legal awareness by circulating petitions containing the text of the Bill of Rights. The students' idealism was dashed when 70 percent of the citizens approached signed petition saying that the Bill of Rights should be repealed. --CBS News.

Ed. Note: CBS sends us a lot of such transcripts; are RIB readers interested in seeing them here?

Here is Charles Osgood's NEWSBREAK verse following the Dec. 4 disappearance of RCA's SATCOM-3:

'Twas two weeks before Christmas and down at the Cape,
The Satcom 3 satellite seemed in great shape.
They had launched it last Thursday. They did so at
And the witnesses called it a beautiful sight, night.
A picture-book launch, as it rose in the air,
And the tracking confirmed it was just about where
They had hoped it would be, right according to plan.
So says NASA's Jim Lacey and RCA's man,
John Williamson, says it looked good to him, too
Satcom did what its planners had planned it would do.
It went into an orbit and looped round the earth.
It was tracked at Earth stations, from Beltsville to Perth.
But something has happened, it pains us to tell,
For the flight of the Satcom did not come out well.

It's a very nice satellite, nice as can be,
The one that is missing, the late Satcom 3.
It was shaped like a box, about five-feet-by-four,
And it weighed just a ton, maybe just a bit more.
It had 24 channels, which made it a peach,
For the channels were leased at a million bucks each.
RCA had the customers all set to go,
And had already laid out a whole lot of dough.
Twenty million to build it, and that's just for starts:
Electronic components and satellite parts;
And thirty more million for boosting and such.
To launch such a vehicle costs pretty much.
And they bought some insurance. Five million they paid
Which may be the brightest decision they made,
For today there are people quite red in the face.
Satcom 3 is now missing. It's lost out in space.

After staying in orbit, this craft, Satcom 3,
Would be kicked to wherever they thought it should be,
Which was synchronous orbit in station specific,
Twenty-two thousand miles high above mid-Pacific.
As wild leaves that before the wild hurricane fly
When they meet with an obstacle mount to the sky,
So satellite engines are duly inspired
Whenever their kick motors come to be fired,
Which was done from New Jersey, the spokesmen now say,
By Americom, wholly owned by RCA.
They said not a word, but went straight to their work,
And pushed the right button, then turned with a jerk,
For the tracking display that the Satcom was on
Showed a very strange thing: the Satcom was gone.

In a twinkling, Americom got on the phone
With satellite stations it happens to own.
They said, "Please let us know if you happen to see
A runaway object, because Satcom 3
Has vanished, it seems away somewhere in space,
And we can't seem to find it around anyplace."
They called NASA and NORAD and Telsat, too,
Western Union and Comsat, and asked them to do
Whatever they could to explain where it went,
This object on which so much money was spent.

On NORAD, on Comsat, on NASA and all,
From the top of the porch to the top of the wall.
Look under the bed or in back of the moon,
And try, please, to find it, and find it real soon.
Satcom 3 is still missing, that's the experts' last word,
An expensive but now quite extinct sort of bird.
And from somewhere in space comes the seasonal call,
"Merry Christmas. Good night. And you can't win 'em all."

REACTIONS TO ELLIOTT'S ALTERNATIVE

by Alan B. Brinkley

If DXers offer the most radical examples of the McLuhanist fallacy of confusing the medium with the message, Kim Andrew Elliott's controlling assumptions appear to be a variety of neo-McLuhanism if he seriously contends that "a larger informational service is performed when six minutes of news reaches thousands of listeners than when twenty minutes of news reaches a few hundred." He seems caught in the problematic of the Utilitarian criterion of the greatest good of the greatest number: which is the better situation, one in which everyone is mildly dissatisfied and unhappy, or one in which some are fulfilled, achieving and happy and others are frustrated, unproductive and miserable?

If Elliott would remember that he is sketching one proposal, an alternative, the thesis he defends would be less vulnerable than when he seeks to co-opt his reader into sharing assumptions like the one already quoted, or another, "Interviews should be avoided. ... Interviewees are usually stiff, formal, boring and have poor radio voices." He is not very persuasive to those who, like me, have in years of listening to international broadcasting heard good interviews as well as bad ones, and who recognizes that bad interviews fail almost as often because of poor interviewing as from the qualities of those being interviewed. Elliott's animus against "third-person, script-reading" and his preference for "personality," "first-person" and "extemporaneous 'dialogue'" may suggest, for those who share his attitudes, at least one kind of program, but surely there are as many ways for a program long on personality, the first-person and extemporaneity, to go wrong as with third-person script-reading.

For me a high moment of almost any week's listening is Alistair Cooke's LETTER FROM AMERICA, which is usually a highly personal statement, deeply revealing the person he is, urbane, widely-informed and, with some frequency, passionate, but I feel sure that he writes his piece before he tapes it. Although he is a brilliant conversationalist--and as an interviewee is anything but stiff, formal, and boring--I think the prose he reads has a higher and more enduring appeal, if it is not as filled as his talk with wit and spontaneity. Elliott is right, I think, in emphasizing that strong and compelling personality can increase the effectiveness of radio communication, but I am not convinced that an exaggerated stress on first-person expression and its being extemporaneous rather than scripted will, of itself, necessarily raise the level of effectiveness in international broadcasting.

I am personally skeptical of typologies of international radio listeners. I suspect that most who listen at all, listen in different ways under different conditions. Most of my listening is directed to acquiring information and news about the public affairs, culture and texture of daily life in other countries, which is either not available in U.S. media, or is available only with the pain of commercial interruptions. Since the international broadcasters are funded by governments, it is perhaps unfortunately to be expected that the policy aims of those governments in politics and economics are going to be served more or less subtly; if the broadcasters conflict with those aims or do not serve them sufficiently, in the judgment of responsible government officials, budgets will probably be cut. Those countries which are internationally most secure politically and economically may have governments which will tolerate considerable broadcaster independence and even some expression of dissent from governmental policy, but there are obvious limits to this tolerance in all countries.

It is not likely that, in the foreseeable future, Radio Moscow's 'new humor' is going to display the irreverent satirical dissent of the BBC's recent TWO CHEERS FOR 1979 and TWO MORE CHEERS... or the uninhibited zaniness of Radio Sweden's SATURDAY SHOW, to mention examples where politics and economics are not absent, but the emphasis is on entertainment in societies secure enough to tolerate that much freedom of expression. In the last days of Amin, Radio Uganda was sometimes unintentionally amusing, but quite restrained in the view it exposed of what was happening in the country.

Elliott makes a good point in pleading for the place of music in international broadcasting, although I can hardly imagine using it "for low-concentration background listening while doing other tasks"; for that, I would expect almost anyone to seek out a high quality FM signal or resort to his record or tape collection. On the other hand, international broadcasting may introduce listeners to indigenous, culturally distinct music or at least display the array of current musical taste. It's not the quantity of music that Radio Australia uses that depresses me, but the fact that so much of it is the top-40 kind of pop music, or something pretty close to it. By contrast, almost any week will find the BBC offering at least some music from almost every period and style as well as current pop hits. Finland, Sweden and Norway have occasional or fairly frequent programs calling attention to their own composers and performers, and so to do the Netherlands, Switzerland and Austria, but it is obvious that budgetary limits impose differing restrictions on how much music will be used.

It is evident to most reflective listeners that international broadcasting exists to reinforce or change opinions and attitudes through providing information and other kinds of appeal. Where the budget is severely limited, there may be larger pressures to serve the controlling purpose more directly, and only where the broadcasting is a really large-scale operation like the BBC, Radio Moscow, Deutsche Welle, the VOA or Radio Beijing is there an opportunity--whether or not it is seized--to enlarge the variety of programming. But even within the limits of 30 minutes a day there can be wide variety of imaginative programming, as, for instance, Finland has demonstrated in the last few years, both calling attention to the distinctiveness of things Nordic and articulating Finland's difficult situation in world politics.

As one listener--and I suspect I may be speaking for a good many others--I should regret it if Elliott, or anyone else, were persuasive enough to contribute to making international broadcasting any less various than it is through the adoption of a small number of program formats designed to offer wider audience appeal. Commercial broadcasting in the U.S. suffers enough from the blight which results when every station is seeking the 'programming concept' which will yield the highest ratings. And the notion that the process of communicating can be quantified by counting the bits of information and the numbers of listeners is akin to the belief that 'snippet journalism', the simple addition of disconnected bits of fact, will somehow help establish informed public opinion. Detached facts, or, even more commonly, those pseudo-facts which are assertions attributed to some authority or results of a survey, reported without sufficient raw data to permit any independent judgment of reliability, are at least as likely to mislead as to inform. What is required is judicious selection, interpretation and enough development of a context and background so that some significance of the facts may emerge. The BBC, Swiss Radio International and Radio Nederland daily offer, in addition to headline summaries, extended commentaries and interpretations, clearly labeled as such, which can do much to enlarge awareness of complex issues. During the Vietnam war years governmental pressures on the Voice of America to discourage its expression of opposition to the war, had the effect of seriously compromising the VOA's international credibility and it is only since the end of the Vietnam war that the VOA is beginning to regain some of its former stature. In my opinion it ought to be the VOA which broadly disseminates ALL THINGS CONSIDERED from NPR instead of AFRTS, which pre-empts it to carry any routine sports event. With limited budgeting NPR does a remarkable job of reporting news and features in enough depth to yield some intelligibility to a thoughtful listener. Canada's THE WORLD AT SIX, AS IT HAPPENS, and SUNDAY MORNING pursue news stories in enough detail and supplemented by wide ranging comment and interpretation to disclose the genuine complexity and difficulty of urgent policy issues, that will never be understood by the mere multiplication of indefinitely many five-minute news summaries, doomed by their brevity to over-simplify and thus distort the important questions which must be faced in every country in the modern world where citizens have a voice in the formulation of national policy, or a vote in the selection of representatives to speak for them.

Just how it was revealed to Kim Andrew Elliott after he had dozed off during a program that it was the type of programming, a script-read broadcast talk, which was 'at fault,' I am not sure from reading his thesis summary. He may be entirely right in the cited instance, especially if he happened to be tuned to Radio Tirana, but I thought of a remark once made by the philosopher Lichtenberg to the effect that if you hit a book against your head and hear a hollow sound it may not be the book. Elliott's obeisance to the cult of personality is abundantly clear, but even if it is true that one type of effective program format might center on a suitably rich and satisfying personality, I see nothing in Elliott's private preference, as he states it, which supports the contention that this format ought to displace various others which he groups together as "traditional programming", a rather large basket in which I have found much satisfying fruit. It would be easier to pursue this discussion by considering particular programs on particular stations or even to discuss individual examples of those programs, but I have sought to respond with discourse at the same level of generality at which the "alternative" was proposed. If any of my comments, or their sum, serves to undermine the plausibility of Elliott's proposal as any kind of paradigm to be followed, then it may have been worth the time to compose this response.

In my maybe over-simple view of the matter any more or less regular listener to international broadcasting who continues to listen over a period of years is likely to listen in different ways and for different reasons at different times. Mainly, I listen to the major broadcasters' English service, but I listen to programming in three other languages to help retain what grasp I have of them, or, specifically in the case of Deutsche Welle, because the German language programming is excellent and varied whereas the 20 minutes for North America (or 15 if you subtract 5 minutes of headlines) in spite of the best intentions of the English Department and a respectable achievement under crippling conditions, amounts primarily to a symbolic statement that DW is unconcerned about those citizens of North America who do not understand enough German to listen to the Deutsches Programm. I have wide-ranging interests in life as it is lived in many parts of the globe. I most welcome anything which calls attention to the diversities within the common aims which tend to

unite all peoples. It is the ambivalence of these diversities that they both enrich and enlarge the human condition and at the same time, if misunderstood, may become the refuges of bias and sectarianism and the fanaticisms which feed war-like impulses and threaten the very survival of life on this planet. Just as there are some teachers who can make what might seem a practical, technical, training experience into a liberating and liberalizing educational experience, so too there are broadcasters (and, dare we hope, script-writers) who can make the incident of having a drink at an outdoor cafe come alive with a sense of human potentiality and largeness of spirit.

I am really at a loss to understand how someone who, like Elliott, inhabits the privileged university world where the opposition between 'diversion' and 'work' can be transcended in a higher unity in which the opposition disappears, believes he must make his case by appealing to the wish to be diverted and entertained, rather than the goal of finding satisfying and fulfilling work. Elliott makes a ritualistic disparagement of 'lowest-common-denominator babble', but his general manner of approach makes me suspect that he is a secret sympathizer with one of the most mistaken apothegms of pop culture: that, to be good, a thing must be easy. It is just possible that those who persist through the hardships of the accidents of propagation, the furies of interference, the demons of equipment malfunction, the puzzlements of friends and family--all for the sake of sharing a view with someone a half a world away--do so not because it is easy, for it is not, nor because it diverts them from where they are and who they are, but rather because it is worth the work to discover that however far apart they are in geography or culture or political system, there is an achievable unity in the aspirations of humankind which is not foreign to what they want in their own most private selves; and we are at least as much alike as we are different. But that need not mean that we are not still different enough to relish many kinds of broadcasting, and with over a thousand times more programming each day than any listener could hear even if he gave up sleeping altogether, there is always a good deal of choice to be made after the drastic limitations imposed by receiving conditions and language, but as for me, while I would welcome a new venue for Rudy Espinal, or others who might achieve what he did in a similar format, I would want to be sure that the range of choice is enlarged and not restricted by any proposed 'alternative programming'.

If Kim Andrew Elliott's ruminations have generated some alternative ruminations, questionings and disagreements, I would like to conclude by saying that I find his extract one of the most provocative contributions to RIB in the past year, primarily because, unlike very brief comments that listener A loved program B, hated program C, and was annoyed when program D was interrupted when the transmitter went off for the thirteenth time this month, Elliott not only conveyed a view but revealed some of the context from which it emerged. May more RIB writers reflect on broadcasting in such ways.

OTHER REACTIONS. (Lamont M. Jensen, Salt Lake City UT) Permit me to agree and disagree with certain points. Elliott's proposal for "personality programming" is excellent. I have thought for many years that it was a shame that so few SWBC stations felt free to use this technique. Of course, there have been some variations, such as HAPPY STATION and HIS & HERS on Radio Nederland, and to a certain extent, Ian McFarland's RCI programs in the days before budget cuts.

However, consider how unappetizing would be our audio fare if a majority of SWBC stations offered the same, or similar menus. In gastronomic, as in artistic areas, one of the most appealing factors is the vast diversity available to a potential customer. The second equally-important factor is, of course, good quality--which, as the reaction of RIB readers shows, is all too often lacking in shortwave broadcast fare.

Since almost all of SW programming today is propaganda in two major fields: political (or subsidiary to that, public relations for the cultural or scenic values of the 'sender' country) and religious (which RIB readers seem to lump under the category of "Bible thumping") perhaps an analogical comparison of the two would reveal facts of value to both.

A careful auditioning of the religious broadcasters (as though you, the listener, were having to foot the bill for airing the programs) reveals that in this field, as in the "political", there are some stations with techniques better than the average and some below average. Those that would probably appeal to the widest audience use some variation of the "personality programming" approach, such as, especially, the Quito-produced programs of HCJB. The average, or "Bible thumping" approach is typified by WYFR in the religious sector and by many communist stations in the political area. And, of course, the "Radio Tirana" of religious broadcasting is typified in some of the programs from WINB, which remind one of some of the "quacks" heard on the MW band from the border-broadcasters in Mexico.

On the whole, Kim A. Elliott's proposals are of value. Let's hope that many of the international broadcasters will read them and make use of the best ideas. I'm sure Mr. Elliott would allow them to do that, without considering that they were interfering with his copyright rights.

(David K. Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) Kim Elliott's thesis is one of the most thoughtful and practical items that has appeared in a long time. It is important that reprints be sent to as many overseas SW stations as possible.

(Arthur S. Getzel, Flushing NY) I found Kim Elliott's article most interesting and thought-provoking. However, I must disagree with him on one point. He said interviews should be avoided because they had a tendency to be boring. He said if there are interviews they should be tightly edited and limited to interesting respondents. This seems to contradict his earlier view that the personality-type of program that he considers optimal for audience interest should be of an impromptu nature. It may not be that an interviewee is boring but that the interviewer may not know how to conduct an effective interview. In New York we have several radio talk show hosts that are expert at using this type of format. But then, the success of these interviews has been dependent on the fact that the host is not afraid to ask controversial questions and, at times, argue with his guest. In addition, these interviewers do not hesitate to solicit phoned questions from the audience.

But now we must ask: Have these techniques been used on shortwave and could they be? It is possible for some of them to be. The CBC's CROSS-COUNTRY CHECK-UP is a hesitant example (after all, only Canadian residents are actively solicited). But can a shortwave station take the plunge and have a telephone talk show with guest interviews geared to an international audience and discuss on the show questions of real controversy? We can imagine some Western station doing this; but not all. Would every Western station be willing to accept a call from a Communist country? Would the BBC accept a call that would be heard all over the world from someone in the IRA? Would the VOA accept and not edit out a call from an Afghan communist supporting the Soviet Union's takeover?

Would R. RSA take a call from someone who would ask a politican being interviewed on a show about apartheid? These are all delicate questions that would separate international broadcasters who really believed in freedom of speech from those who do not.

And while some Western stations might adopt such a format, you can be sure such a format can never really exist on a station in a country that is an authoritarian-totalitarian dictatorship of the right or left. This, I think, brings us to a core question. Why don't more stations adopt the personality format Kim Elliott considers successful to effective audience capture?

Most stations in this world could never allow themselves to hire a Rudy Espinal who may in an impromptu harangue on the telephone or with a guest, criticize some sacred cow. And then the host would be bumped because after all, almost all international SW stations are owned by the government in one way or the other.

The only way I see a real dramatic change away from the political formats of most SW stations is if SW stations are allowed to operate totally free of government control, excluding licensing and technical restrixions. If World War II had not happened, American international broadcasting might have evolved along these lines. After all, before WWII'all' SW stations were privately owned in America. In any case, considering the direxion the world is headed, and the pessimistic attitudes of most governments in terms of giving individuals real political freedom, I doubt that this will ever happen.

(Beverly Slomka, NY) I was very pleased to read Dr. Elliott's report. I agree with the things he felt were wrong with the traditional programming approach and I very much like the ideas he has as an alternate approach.

While I enjoy most of what I hear on shortwave stations, I feel the major downfall of some stations is the endless politicizing. I have no quarrel with news presentations and analyses, but as Dr. Elliott pointed out, there is a point when most people have "heard enough," and wish to hear other things of interest. Much worse than prolonged news presentations, however, is prolonged politicizing and propaganda, and I really am surprised at how some international broadcasters persist in these presentations and really expect to keep an audience. I steer clear of these broadcasts, and many who have commented in RIB seem to dislike this type of programming.

To be interesting, a program should offer variety. I think the popularity of a broadcaster such as the BBC could be attributed to its variety. There is news, and plenty of it if one wants that, but one can always tune in later for a musical program, science, drama, sports, religion, etc. True, this is a 24-hour broadcaster, but as Dr. Elliott shows, variety and interest can be injected into a 30- or 60-minute program also.

I think a news bulletin should be presented by every broadcaster at the beginning of every program. Especially in time of crisis such as the present, it is important to hear news from different sources, and SWLs will probably want to hear more news. However, the news presentations need not be lengthy. And, after hearing of all the disaster around the globe, I think most of us would like to hear something about a country's culture, or social events, some music and some news about our hobby. I think, then, that Dr. Elliott's ideas are right to the point.

The only thing I disagree with and would rather see encouraged, is the use of interviews in a program. I have heard on-the-spot interviews on various shortwave stations and they have been some of the most interesting programs I have heard. Even though some were conducted outdoors, audio quality did not seem impaired. Other than this, I totally support Dr. Elliott's ideas and hope they can be implemented in some way.

RESPONSES TO PETE MYERS

by Beverly Slomka

I was really floored (though I guess deservedly so) by Pete Myers' talk on Radio Nederland's DX JUKEBOX, transcribed in October RIB. He is right in what he said, and I can understand his frustration in not receiving comments on the programs he produces. Everyone wants to know how their work is accepted. It's better, I think, to receive a barrage of criticism than no comment at all. Otherwise, one assumes that he is ignored.

However, while I admit that real program comment may be lacking in the SWLing, DXing world, there might be reason for it other than pure lack of interest in program content. With respect to reception reports, perhaps I am wrong, but I have always thought of them as just that: "reception" reports; reports mainly for the technical staff of the station to gauge how they are being received by the world. While the reception forms that I have include a few lines for comments, the basic form has to do with reception and I can certainly see a novice DXer understanding that the 'reception' quality was the most important thing. Of course, it doesn't exempt the DXer from airing his views on what he has heard.

However, I believe that most SWLers, even 'pure' DXers, do listen to program content. Even when I first started in the hobby and was interested mainly in what countries I could receive, I was always attracted to one sort of program or another which kept me listening to that station until it was finished. Certainly, too, the comments under LISTENER INSIGHTS ON PROGRAMMING is evidence of real listening and not just DXing.

What I think might be behind the problem is perhaps the DXers, SWLers' tendency to take for granted what they hear and the fact that the things they like to hear will continue to be broadcast and things not liked can just be ignored. I myself never before realized what went into programs and broadcasting until I started to listen to shortwave. I realize now, from the programs I've listened to on shortwave, than an awful lot goes into these programs. As a result of this too, I now view local radio and TV differently.

Besides this, though, a lot of people may not be oriented to sitting down and writing their comments about programs, even when they consider a program to be exceptional. I think especially here in the U.S., where we have so much in the way of things, and a variety of radio and TV stations with a variety of productions, we just tend to take things for granted.

RIB has recently been my inspiration for starting to comment on programming. In fact, I recently sent a letter to a TV station in New York to compliment them on their splendid coverage of the Pope's visit, something I ordinarily would not have done. Still, I fully understand why some stations feel the need for comments. A few months ago, I heard a most moving drama production on BBC WS. I was so moved by it, that I said I just had to write and let them know how I felt. Somehow or other, I just never got the chance. Luckily, however, being on the World Service Listener Panel, I got a chance to air my views on drama productions in their last survey.

Yes, it may be just laziness too that stops some people from commenting. But perhaps if SWBCs do a bit of prodding I am sure comments would be forthcoming. A simple questionnaire printed in RIB, such as the one Radio Nederland ran some months ago, would serve the purpose well, and as I understand, that questionnaire did get good response. It does not take too much time and shows an interest in what the listener likes, on the part of the station. Stations can also send small questionnaires, even just a few questions, with their program schedules to those on their mailing lists. Programs, too, like BBCWS' Letterbox, are a good prompter for comments. Somehow, with that program if you are not sufficiently motivated to write at first, the listeners' comments themselves will motivate you.

Once again, while I do admit that Pete Myers is right in how he feels, I think there are many reasons why stations do not get comments. I think basically that a little effort is needed on both sides to make the listener and station valuable to each other.

(Syd Osterman, Ont.) I have no wish to become deeply involved in this controversy; merely to say that, unlike Frits Greveling, I feel that international broadcasters are around today partly because of the great interest shown by DXers/experimenters in the early magical days of SWBC. Days when a program was music plus a little chatter, often by the engineer! Producers, who needed them! Really, I do sympathize with Pete Myers, but I often wonder whether such an antedeluvian medium as ISWBC would survive at all were it not for its propaganda value to government and religion. I would remind Mr. Myers that a card-chasing DXer can become an attentive listener; simply change the rules for RN. No comment pro or con, no QSL card! Remember that most SW club reporting guides emphasize reception and program details. They do not underline the need for a meeting of minds! How much feedback pro or con does the average domestic radio producer or program maker receive? A lot less than Myers gets from overseas! Let's not bite off too much of the hand that feeds !

(Kim Andrew Elliott, Amherst MA) The debate over the relative merits of DXing versus program listening is no doubt becoming tedious to some RIB readers. Nevertheless, Arthur Getzel's observations in his Dec RIB article prompt me to offer these comments: I do not subscribe to the notion that DXers should mature or otherwise evolve into program listeners, or vice versa. Each activity has its merits. It is certainly understandable why some persons would derive more enjoyment from DXing than program listening, especially given the overall quality of international broadcast programming. Actually, DXers may be the ultimate program listeners, searching the shortwave bands for truly excellent programming. Even those with 200-plus countries logged have not reported hearing such broadcasts.

By the way, those interested in reading my entire thesis which was summarized in January RIB, will soon find it available in print or microfilm copies (196 pp) via University Microfilms; inquire at any good library.

(Diane S. Lévesque, Carbondale IL) How can one blame Pete Myers for looking at us the way he does? That card that you hope to say Marathon but said Greenville still costs the station the same amount of money, and you've got to admit that's plenty. On the other hand, what a particular broadcaster/programmer had been subjected to for a good part of his career, assuming he's been there a good while, is not necessarily what he's dealing with today. Those broadcasters that have followed the hobby know this--those who have regarded hobby people as a necessary annoyance could care less. Two way international communication, and the diplomatic ability to see both sides, concerning both broadcaster and listener, is especially important at this particular stage of developments. Whatever else RIB may be criticized for, at least it's at the right place and the right time to be instrumental in this. Let's not blow it by ruthless condemnation of anybody.

(Bob Padula, Victoria, Nov. Australian DX News) Once again we have a major international station not understanding the differences between DXing/SWLing and trying to collectively put all 'listeners' into the same parcel! In my opinion, the most useful reports from listeners emerge from the serious DXers, and not from the program listener. I have been on both sides of this issue, and I speak from personal experience. But let's not get too involved with this sort of issue--stations are entitled to do what they want with their QSL policies; if some stations want to go off in the way that Radios Canada, Finland and now Sweden are doing, then in the long term the stations themselves will suffer. There is far too much nonsense being spoken, and written, about the need for every listener to become a "Program Critic". DXers, by definition, are involved in the technical/monitoring/QSLing aspects of long-distance radio reception, and to try and cause them to forget about their hobby in favour of something vastly different (and less challenging!) is absurd. Of course, I enjoy listening to various programs via international radio, but my interest in listening is not for program content or entertainment while I have my DXer's hat on! Long live DXing...

(Mike Burden, Notts.) Keeping the Customers Satisfied. Having read the comments of RN's Pete Myers and R. Finland's Patrick Humphreys on pages 2 and 14 of Oct RIB, I feel compelled to point out that radio stations do exist for the benefit, service and satisfaction not so much of the people who work in them but rather for the people who listen to them. So perhaps the two gentlemen should be asking themselves how they can best and most effectively do this. And who knows, perhaps they can do it by (1) printing and issuing reams of QSL cards and printed material and dispensing it like confetti, and (2) turning out plenty of mailbags and request shows (though often sounding crass, trivial and patronising they do get the listeners and give people possibly their only chance of getting their names mentioned on the radio) along with DX programmes packed with DX tips (thus enabling the listener to amass yet more QSLs). It may be an unpalatable truth that most SWLs (especially in Western Europe and North America) are not real listeners who want in-depth features on science, arts, culture, etc. SWLs and DXers are probably no less likely than the rest of the public to suffer from that affliction which makes them want the radio as a 'blah, blah, blah' or an addictive noise. Neither are they any more likely to be of that mentality which, say, prefers BBC Radio 3 to BBC Radio 1. Where they are probably different from the common herd is that their listening is mainly done with the intention of acquiring a 'constant flow of cardboard' at relatively low or nominal cost. But even so, everybody else for that matter likes to have something tangible in his hand--be it a QSL, or a coupon for a free offer or whatever. Sorry to disappoint and disillusion you, P.M. and P.H. !

(Michael Fine, Jerusalem, Israel) The length of Carlos Maslatón's article on verification cards and the vehemence with which he presents his case might lead the unsuspecting reader to the conclusion that such cards and letters are the burning issue in international broadcasting today. The 'dangers' to the traditional verification system and those besetting the free market society appear dissimilar to me and the analogy is quite far-fetched. The question is whether the lack of a verification souvenir hinders the listener's enjoyment of a shortwave station. The only way an international broadcaster can "defraud" its audience is by not producing programs of high quality on receivable frequencies. I assume the tradition of issuing verification cards as well as the entire language associated with them (QSL, QRM, 73 etc.) is a hangover from the days when shortwave radio enthusi-

asts were the step-brothers of amateur radio operators, and when one had to have certain technical abilities to tune the shortwave bands. Shortwave listening is a separate hobby. As Radio Finland points out, they still welcome accurate reception reports from technically minded listeners and perhaps they have some value to the station engineering staff. One assumes that such a listener takes the time to fill in reception report forms to help the station make better engineering decisions, nothing more or less.

As a one-time shortwave broadcaster, I can tell you that it is depressing to go through a stack of mail and find nothing but reception reports and QSL requests. Many of them indicate a complete lack of comprehension as to what is being broadcast. Perhaps the gradual elimination of reception reporting and verification cards will lead to a more mature listener who derives his 'material/spiritual' pleasures (to use Mr. Maslatón's words) from understanding what the guy behind the microphone is trying to tell you. And perhaps then, program directors will assume that there are intelligent people out there and allow program producers to express themselves to the best of their creative abilities. Pardon my vehemence.

(Harold Sellers, Scarborough, Ont.) Re Arthur Getzel's "Reflections", RIB-34, I reject his statement that hobbyists ten years ago were a 'breed' only after QSLs. As he also says, all international listeners are a bit SWL and DXer; and throughout the history of international broadcasting, those who listened were a combination of program listener and DX seeker. I think a majority of listeners have always been like that. Developments during the last decade have brought program discussion into club bulletins and other publications. This has certainly been a good thing.

It always saddens me to see hobbyists who have a preference for one aspect of the hobby criticize those with another preference. No service is being done to the hobby by this! Those who have eagerly sought to collect QSLs have done a service to the hobby, just as those who specialize in program listening and comment to the broadcaster. Anyone listening to a station in order to compile a report, is listening to the programming. Many QSL collectors collect series of QSLs from particular stations, and comment on programming. What is wrong with collecting souvenirs from stations? How many listeners also seek to get postage stamps off the QSLs or letters? The actual practice of amassing a QSL collection is not wrong. What is wrong is that stations so freely give them away and then get swamped for requests for them. From the beginning stations should have better controlled the issuance of QSLs. But I guess they just wanted as many letters as possible and then learned later that something had to be done to encourage program comments. I'm glad a few stations are prompting listeners to comment. I hope stations will always send souvenirs to deserving listeners, but I also hope that they will do all that they can to encourage program response.

(Mike Bolitho, Toronto, Ont.) I didn't manage to recognize those names that were supposedly those of a group of individuals who call themselves the "NASWA Country List Committee". Who are they? I haven't seen any of those names in FRENDX recently, and had I not been looking through some ancient back issues, I would have had no idea that these gentlemen were even NASWA members. Shortwave begins at 2000 kHz--is this "Jensen's Law"?? Hi.

(John M. Kapinos, Shrewsbury MA) Re Messrs. Stoller, Underdown and Getzel's anti-award comments in Nov RIB: Balderdash. Dick, if you don't care to do your homework, don't condemn those who do as 'elitists'. Bob, if some dimbot wants to send fraudulent reports in order to get the QSLs to get an award, let him. Who is he kidding besides himself??? Anyone who stoops this low is a 'sicky'--and every serious member of the hobby knows who these 'sickies' are. Arthur, re your country name claim read the NASWA country list and awards program; you will find that what you say is not true. Sri Lanka/Ceylon, Belize/British Honduras, Zimbabwe Rhodesia/Rhodesia etc. are counted as one country, not 2. I know that you are a member of NASWA, so shame on spouting off half-cocked. Also, Bob, the NASWA awards program is not impossible, only very difficult. Most, if not all, of the awards can be earned with a couple of years of serious DXing. As far as I can tell, there is no award which requires a station that no longer exists. If I am incorrect, please enlighten me.

(Dennis Kelly, MO) On the subject of awards, nobody forces listeners to collect veries or not to collect. The true value or worthlessness of country verification totals is very personal. Is it so important that a newcomer to the hobby cannot get as many country totals or awards as the old timers? The only NASWA members that will be 'hurt' by current station counting policy are the ones compelled to compete with the old timers. Perhaps it is not the collecting of verifications itself that tends to be 'elitist', but rather the sometimes accompanying intent to impress with one's totals, that is elitist. Although I feel Richard Stoller and Bob Underdown are not to be disputed in addressing the issue of discrepancies of NASWA station counting rules, this should be of no major consequence to the listener who views awards as manifestations of completed personal achievements rather than articles of competition. We are a small hobby group. Stereotyping listeners who value verifications or awards does little to enhance our hobby.

gh: I am uneasy about calling all this a 'hobby'--it's more serious than that for many of us.

ZYJ 465 - RÁDIO RELÓGIO FEDERAL - RIO DE JANEIRO - BRAZIL

(from Dec. 1979 WDXC Contact) by Roberto Levinstein WDXC 1165

If you ever tuned to 4.905 kHz and heard nothing else but a man continuously speaking in a language sounding like Spanish, but not really, with time-pips under his voice, followed by a woman and three strong (time)-pips every minute, you may be excused for thinking that your receiver had gone beserk.

However, it had not end you were, in fact, tuned to Rádio Relógio Federal (Clock-Radio), in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, an old and old fashioned station, which cannot and does not claim to have a regular audience. The vast majority of people who tune in to it (other than DXers...) usually do so for one or two minutes and then either retune to another station or switch their recievers off. Not because their programmes are bad but simply because they do not have any programmes!

Radio Relógio is a speaking clock and all it does is to broadcast as many commercials as can be fitted in between two time announcements or, in other words, in one minute. Those tuning in, just want to have the exact time and that is how such a station manages to sell commercial time: you have got only one chance in 60 to switch the radio on at the exact moment the announcement is broadcast!

The commercials, which can range from a new brand of soap to a car dealer, are all pre-recorded by two or three announcers. Some of them are heard only once but the majority are heard minute after minute, day after day, like, for instance, one for "Galeria Silvestre" - a shop selling all sorts of lamps and light equipment - which, for the last 10 years, has been going out just before each time announcement, every minute, from 18 hs local (21 GMT) to around 7 am local. At night, though, when the commercials are more difficult to sell, the station alternates commercials with - equally pre-recorded - general curiosities, like "did you know that South America's highest mountain is the Aconcagua, in Argentina, with 8848 metres?" Then one gets one minute of commercials and one of curiosities.

The time pips, synchronized with the Bureau Internacional de L'Heure of Paris, are relayed from the "Observatório Nacional" in Rio, responsible for time standards in the country, although the station itself does not directly belong to the Observatório.

Before I visited the station, I could not have imagined how it works: two recording studios and one main control room, from where tapes are broadcast and monitored. All commercials for a 24 hour period are put together on one tape, the time announcements are on another tape and the pips, continuously broadcast, are received via low line. Then all works on extremely high precision timers. After the on-the-minute pip, the commercials tape comes on, switching itself automatically off at the 56th second, when the time announcements tape goes on and the cycle goes on repeating itself. All this can be manually operated in an emergency, but there has never been such an emergency.

In order to attract a regular audience, music programmes were once started in the afternoons but were dropped after a few months. Three reasons were given for their unsuccessful attempt: 1) no one could stand listening to music with time pips and announcements under it; 2) the record companies refused to allow time pips under their records and 3) the station's official statement: "We are a speaking clock, not a singing one."

On Sundays, there are two religious programmes : at 12 hours local, "The Jewish Hour" and at 12:30 "The Baptist Church Hour" - all with time pips but no time announcements!

Despite its rather cold relationship with the listeners as there are no live broadcasts, Radio Relógio Federal, owned by the Rio de Janeiro state government, has a special place in most homes in Rio and is well known and liked by all inhabitants, who rely on it for the correct time anytime - 24 hours a day on 580 kHz and 07:30-03:30 GMT on 4.905 kHz.

THE RADICALIZATION OF JEFF WHITE

Trans World Radio had a nationwide television special which ran during the month of August. It showed various aspects of TWR's work around the world. During the film, one of the TWR workers commented that their biggest problem was lack of personal contact with listeners. I wrote Dr. Paul Freed, TWR President, on behalf of the ANARC Public Relations Committee, invited him to attend next year's ANARC convention to get in personal contact with listeners, and sent several pieces of information about ANARC. I received a reply from V. Rodger Groff, TWR Administrative Assistant, which went as follows (emphasis is mine): "Dear Mr. White, Thank you for your letter of August 21. Dr Freed appreciates your writing and was especially glad to hear you enjoyed the TV special. We have a number of amateur radio enthusiasts on our staff, and they maintain contact with their friends and DX'ers on a fairly regular basis. Therefore, we are somewhat aware of the scope and value of amateur radio. Although he appreciates your invitation to attend the ANARC convention in 1980, Dr. Freed has a very busy schedule and would not find this possible. It was good to hear from you, for we have high regard for those involved in amateur radio."

Well, that's really great to know they have such high regard for amateur radio operators. But I wonder what they think about us shortwave listeners. I must say I was really surprised to receive that type of reply from TWR. I can understand the fact that the general public thinks we are all amateur operators, but there's no excuse for an international shortwave broadcasting station to think that -- especially since I sent several information sheets about ANARC, including one entitled "What is DX Listening?" I also explained about the European DX Council and how they could attend the 1980 EDXC conference to meet listeners. They obviously did not bother to read the information I sent, and they must not have even bothered to read my short letter very well, since they obviously think ANARC is a ham club. I certainly hope that my letter just went to the wrong person, and that his perceptions are not representative of TWR. However, I'm afraid that possibly TWR might have the same problems that most government-operated SW stations have -- that is, they seem to be infested with a top-level bureaucracy management that knows nothing about its listeners, never has any personal contacts with listeners, thinks all "DXers" are hams or QSL-chasers, and generally could care less what listeners think of their programs. Their job is to make sure the station workers feed the right kind of propaganda through the transmitters, not realizing that most intelligent listeners know when they're being bombarded with a sales pitch for communism or whatever the station is selling.

I believe that every station should have the right to broadcast its message, whether it be promoting a particular country and its culture (as most Western stations do), promoting the Gospel (as most religious stations do), promoting an ideological viewpoint (as most communist stations do), or promoting tourism or whatever. After all, international broadcasting these days is primarily a means of international public relations. On the recent NPR program that was discussed in a previous issue of RIB, Pauline Frederick said: "Powerful radio transmissions beamed around the world represent a new type of international public relations -- image-building that no longer depends alone on the negotiating table or summit meetings. International public relations reaches beyond governments, taking issues and opinions directly to the people. Broadcast technology has spun global mass media through which the industrialized nations, and more and more developing countries, have been conducting worldwide public relations campaigns -- promoting a country's culture and way of life to hundreds or millions of listeners on shortwave radio."

Why can't many SW stations' top management realize, as Pauline Frederick says, that they are not broadcasting to foreign governments; they are broadcasting to foreign people? And don't they realize that these people are smart enough to know when they're listening to a propa-

ganda campaign from a foreign government?

I guess I got a little carried away and moved from TWR to government stations. And I suppose I'd better stop before I offend any SW stations that I haven't already. But my point is that from contacts I have had with SW stations, most of them seem to be managed by government-type bureaucrats who have no contact with listeners and who are only interested in shoving their P.R. campaigns (and I'm not criticizing anyone's P.R. campaigns) down the throats of listeners. However, it also seems to me that the program producers and hosts who do the actual work that gets on the air (and especially DX show hosts, since they have the most contact with listeners; personal contact, that is) do seem to really care about their listeners and how they perceive the station's programs.

Yet there are still too many who don't. As Rudy Espinal (formerly of Radio Clarín in Santo Domingo) told me at the 1979 ANARC convention: "Most of us (people involved in international broadcasting) probably came on the air by accident. And it's fun. We're getting paid and we just sit down for a couple of hours and talk to the people. But we don't know if we are really talking to people or not, and probably some of us don't care if we are being listened to or not, as long as we get paid. Some others of us do get interested in what we are doing and what people think about us."

Rudy Espinal is certainly in the latter group he mentioned, but too many people are still in the former group. I guess to conclude, I should mention something about a particular station -- Radio Peking. As most RIB readers know, Radio Peking was voted the most improved station during the past year by RIB readers. The RIB awards were made at the ANARC convention in Minneapolis, and I included a list of the award winners in a summary/analysis of the ANARC convention that was sent to a number of broadcasters. I sent a copy of the convention report to Radio Peking. Recently I received a totally-unexpected reply from Mr. Ma Ruiliu in the English Section of Radio Peking. The reply was as follows:

"Dear Mr. White: We're glad to learn that the 1979 ANARC Convention was a success. Thank you for the enclosed report on the convention, which is very informative. We appreciated RIB's favourable comment on Radio Peking and regard it as an encouragement to us to further improve our work. Wish you still greater success for next year's ANARC convention and hope you'll keep us informed of it. Sincerely yours, Ma Ruiliu."

I never thought I'd see the day when a hard-line communist station like Radio Peking would pay any attention to comments from a bunch of mostly anti-communist Westerners like us concerning their programming. Maybe the tables are beginning to turn. Maybe SW stations will begin to listen to their listeners, instead of just talking to them all the time.

Finally, let me just make it clear that I'm not criticizing any SW station in particular. Rather, I would encourage any SW station personnel or management who read this to write to the ANARC Public Relations Committee, 409 Laconia Lane, Schaumburg, Illinois 60193 USA with their comments about my comments, and to request further information about how ANARC, representing SW listeners, can help them.

ANARCON - 80. This year's ANARC Convention will take place July 18-20 on the University of California campus at Irvine, 40 mi S of Los Angeles, sponsored by SCADS, known for their successful regional DX meetings. Little is known about the agenda this early, but some trans-Pacific DXers are reported planning to attend as well as Ian McFarland from RCI, George Wood from R. Sweden, and Alfonso Montealegre from R. Nederland. Registration is $10 per person; banquet $10.50; all other meals included in townhouse lodging @ $23 per person single, $20 per person double occupancy, per day. Listen to DX programs, especially RCI DX DIGEST, for further reports. For info and a registration form send a SASE to convention chairman Stew MacKenzie, 16182 Ballad Lane, Huntington Beach CA 92649. This is the annual DX/SWL convention in North America.

EDXC - 80. The corresponding event in Europe is the annual EDXC Convention, to be held this year in Paris, France, for 3 or 4 days starting May 23. Because of relative accessibility, there are usually more broadcasters present at EDXC meetings than at ANARC. For information on this send a couple of IRCs to EDXC, P.O. Box 4, St. Ives, Huntingdon, England PE17 4FE. Bargain rates promised.

EQUIPMENT FORUM

gh: Since my name and address are widely publicized, I keep getting unsolicited requests for advice on purchasing a SW receiver. While I realize this is a very important matter, the first obstacle that must be overcome in order to gain access to our dynamic medium, I have neither the time nor the knowledge to reply to such requests. I will instead refer them to an excellent and extremely comprehensive article in the 1980 World Radio TV Handbook, which is now available. In 22 pages, including a 2-page quick reference table, Larry Magne reports his test results and recommendations on table-model SW receivers currently available. He has made every effort to be fair and does not face advertising considerations confronting reviewers in 'slick' electronics magazines. If you are in the market for a SW receiver, this alone is worth the price of the WRTVH80 (which everyone should have anyway as the comprehensive reference work on international broadcasting). There are several sources for it, but probably the most efficient is via GILFER, and I think the price ppd. in North America is now $14.95. # Sorry, I'm a little late printing the next item, but...

(Joel Rubin, CA) The Fall-Winter 1979 Sears Catalogue does not list the "Sears Communications Receiver" a.k.a. Yaesu FRG-7. Since the Spring-Summer catalogue went out of date on Sept. 5, you can no longer order it (@ $279.95). Watch for closeouts if you live near a Sears warehouse-store!!

(Larry L. Ledlow, Columbia MD) I've been thinking about the new receivers that followed the FRG-7 onto the market--you know, the DX-300, the FRG-7000, the Kenwood R-1000, etc. Well, I've heard nothing but bad things from DX-300 owners and I'm not impressed with what I've heard about the new Kenwood rig. Yet there's always a mad scramble, every time a new rig is introduced, of DXers searching for what they believe will be a panacea. Well, in my opinion, they're all suckers! What the hell is wrong with the FRG-7? What is it these other rigs offer to improve over the FRG-7? You have to admit that the Yaesu people provide good quality control (something Radio Shack failed to give enough attention to on the DX-300 production line) and reasonable price (excepting the FRG-7000) for said quality. Why don't all you would-be suckers out there cool your jets, save your money, and buy a FRG-7? At least it's a tried and true friend. After all, the FRG-7 is the standard against which most other radios are compared.

TYPS FROM SYD OSTERMAN

ATTENUATION, FROG OWNERS! I have an interesting variable gain modification for FRG-7 owners. First, let me emphasize that I am not the originator--the idea came from Grant Manning, via Robert Rankin's article in the Sept. FRENDX SWC. Intended for the FRG-7000, it adapts quite readily to the FRG-7. In order to attenuate strong signals, the Frog owner uses the DX-NORM-LOC switch. It is supposed to attenuate the signal by 10 or 20 db. Usually too little or too much! A variable gain control for the receiver would be much better. Especially if it can be done without opening the box!

The only component required is a 20k ohm variable resistor (potentiometer). Connect the centre lug to the MUTE terminal on the rear panel, and the right hand lug (front view) to ground. You will then have a gain control. Mount this on a small metal bracket, which can be attached to the front side of the cabinet with one of the cover screws.

Give this simple modification a try. It will help with spurious signal and selectivity problems due to overload. You will be able to vary the gain of the FRG-7, rather than using only a simple resistive attenuator, subject to capacitive feedthrough problems on the higher bands, and other shortcomings. I use a preselector with a wide range gain control, prior to my Frog because of the antenna limitations of my QTH--i.e., nothing conventional permitted! With a good signal, the above modification is much cheaper and should give equal or better results. Certainly the internally-generated noise level will be lower. Thanks to Grant Manning of Radio West--truly the SWL's friendly mail order house. Also to Mr. Rankin for the article in FRENDX.

MORE ON THE QF-1 AUDIO FILTER My recent article brought a number of queries; the answers to a couple may be of interest to readers. One asked whether the FRG-7 tone control was disengaged by activating the QF-1. The answer is no, it's simply not effective inside the comparatively narrow bandwidth of the filter. I would advise leaving the receiver tone in the NORMAL position, and working with the filter controls. Another question concerned the possibility of taping a signal after it has passed through the QF-1. Certainly this can be done. You will need a monitor facility, perhaps via your tape recorder or use a wye cable at the QF-1 out socket--one leg for your phones and the other for taping. I tape from the record output on the RX to obtain the most response and least noise on the tape. Also, as I have stated before, 'fiddling with the filter can cost you an ID'. Another factor involves the desirability of taping from a relatively high impedance, rather than the low impedance out of the filter. Incidentally, if you are using 2.4 kHz or other narrow RX selectivity, or a RX with ECSS capability, you will probably find that an audio filter in one of its modes, will aid in sharpening the rather dull audio that is so hard to read.

RADIO SHACK, GILFER AND FRENDX (Syd Osterman) The pages of FRENDX Short Wave Center have recently seen much comment on the Radio Shack DX-300. Condemnation, replacement, correction and fulsome praise! In the Dec issue we again have condemnation and finally a refund request ! Many personal opinions and comments were printed, including hearsay comments by Radio Shack employees, whose names were printed! Attention was also drawn to Radio Shack's method of handling refunds. Also of interest was the Editor's suggestion that owners of the DX-300 read the manual, before applying for a refund! Contrast the foregoing treatment with that accorded GILFER. None of the articles concerning poor or useless equipment, misleading advertising, and unfounded statements, have appeared in SWC! I hold no brief for RadioShack and the DX-300. FRENDX SWC deserves praise for exposing any real faults with this receiver. However, many of the comments printed were very controversial indeed! I cannot help feeling that censorship has been used to avoid controversy where GILFER was involved. Selective publishing would not seem to be in the best interest of FRENDX readers.

(Roger N. Peterson, New Canaan CT) I have been a customer of GILFER for several years and have always had good results. I had them modify my four-year-old Drake SSR-1 (big improvement), I obtained their GAR-7 which now provides me with digital readout (works fine) and I have an antenna from them that also gives excellent results. While some of the highly technical people in our midst may be able to beat GILFER in set modifications, making accessories, etc., I believe the average SWL needs someone like GILFER to obtain supplies and equipment. In my opinion, GILFER is far superior to the average electronic retail store.

(Ralf F. Munster, Decatur GA) While I have not as yet actually bought anything from GILFER, I did obtain their catalgoue and noticed that they were advertising H.C. Woodruff's "Shortwave Listener's Guide", 1978, 7th edition for $5.45 while commenting that "it's a good buy at this low price." Since I had previously acquired the same edition of the identical book from Radio Shack for $2.25, and found it woefully out of date even with respect to matters independent of seasonal schedule changes, I mentioned the price differential and the book's decidedly limited usefulness while writing GILFER about some other matters. In response to this Jeanne Ferrell asked "is the one at Radio Shack the 7th edition? The 7th was published in '78 and shouldn't be too far out of date. The reason we carry it, at any rate, is to offer some alternative to people who do not wish or cannot afford the ever=rising price of the WRH." While this neatly ignored my point about the price differential, I also received some genuinely helpful information. Though this particular mark-up does appear to be questionable, any discussion would involve one in an excessively lengthy discourse on the problems of retailers, particularly small ones. When even giant retailers like Sears and A&P are enmeshed in seemingly intractable problems, what can one possibly say about the pricing policies of an extensively service-oriented company like GILFER?

(Trevor Sessing, Ont.) Re "Panasonic Drift", Oct. RIB p. 5 & 6: So Osterman finds the Panasonic Dip amusing. Obviously the man is not attuned to the rhythm of the times (hi). You see, the object of the exercise gang, was to alert Kaufman to the fact that tuning the Panasonic digitals is a little harder than wrapping your mitts around the dial. (incidentally, relax Bev Slomka, I'm taking the rap). I stand by what I said about using both the calibrator and the BFO to tune the set dead-on. Will Martin of St. Louis, rest assured, me thinks it works. By slipping the calibrator to the left I can get Radio Berlin International. Without the calibrator adjustment I would have hardly known it was there. It acts a little like a notch filter as well as a fine tuner. Why it happens I don't know. Another point: 2 kHz in drift may sound awful but according to Panasonic it's still within parameters of the set. Their brochure explicitly states: "2.0 kHz 30 minutes after switch on". But 2.0 kHz within five minutes is unacceptable and may indicate a dud.

SUPERSCOPE C-190 (Louis Goldstein, Boston MA) Last year I got interested in this model of tape recorder after reading the RIB article by Syd Osterman. As you might recall, I had reviewed my experience with C-180 and C-104. The former a winner and the latter a loser. The C-190 incorporates many fine features at moderate cost. Basic design is sturdy, utilitarian; see C-180 review. In addition to all the features noted in C-180, it has some additional attractions. By the flick of a switch on side of machine, you can bypass automatic level control. You can choose two other settings, one is limiter by which you can set record level and it will keep peak level below 0 VU or maintain full manual control. I use patchcord from extension speaker jack of FRG-7 into aux imput of C-190. To record I use record level between 8-10 on C-190 and FRG between 2 & 3, as required.

C-190 has very active VU meter, three digit tape counter and vari-speed control that will speed up or slow down tape 20% on playback. Motor gives good steady speed with all size tapes from C-30 to C-180. Ext. speaker jack, aux. imput and mic imput jacks conveniently found on side of machine. Following cassette tapes used successfully: Ampex Lo Noise, Ampex Plus, TDK Dynamic, Fuji, Centron HD. Motor will pull thru most cassettes, even those that bind a bit in shell and will not stop machine at least provocation as does C-104. Extra plus is ¼" headphone jack on front, and handle. AC-DC and four C-tell battery operation. Debit: on all recorders, intermittently pick up unwanted CB and even shortwave signals.

LISTENER INSIGHTS on PROGRAMMING

A F G H A N I S T A N (Syd Osterman, Toronto, Ont.) 'Red' Radio Afghanistan.

The invasion of the Red Army hordes into helpless Afghanistan, coincided with a period of excellent SW reception from this area. I was able to monitor Radio Afghanistan on 4774 kHz extensively, and on 6230 kHz for a shorter period. Programs were very different from those normally expected. Some of the listening highlights follow.

I first tuned 4774 kHz around 1130 GMT on Dec. 29, to hear a woman talking with a definite mention of 'Radyo Afghanistan' followed by martial music. The language seemed different to that normally heard on this station. Softer and perhaps less guttural than usual. No Russian was heard during monitoring. However, newspaper reports indicate that many of the invaders were of Uzbek origin, perhaps providing a clue to the language.

Music provided the biggest contrast to the expected norm. Running the gamut from a surprising, partly English, vocal rendition of 'Silent Night', through pop, 40's style jazz and swing, to Hungarian Gypsy fiddle music, and some classical. I failed to recognize most of the music by title, but its nature, coupled with many short, silent pauses, reminded me most strongly of USSR Mayak programs. Reception on 6230 kHz on Dec. 29 yielded only normal sounding talk by a man and woman, with mentions of 'Kabul'. Noisy conditions precluded extensive listening to this frequency.

On Dec. 30, I heard slow language talk by a man. Rather in the manner of a lecture, including frequent hesitations. Repeated mention of 'transistor', 'NFM', 'Intermittent', 'FM'. This talk was interspersed with short outbursts from a female pop type vocal group ! I cannot be sure if I heard a talk on basic radio, or a DJ with a pop group called 'Transistor' !

I noted an interesting change on Jan. 6; the 4774 kHz program was back to a normal sounding mixture of local vocals and language talk. However 6230 kHz was putting out some sort of pop-rock vocal stuff, possibly in English ! Although the noise level was too high to be positive. Perhaps indicating troop movements away from Kabul. Assuming of course that the unusual musical mélange that I have outlined was intended for Soviet troops.

Finally, I was unable to establish any parallel periods of operation between 4774 and 6230 kHz; even allowing for possible time delay, programs were distinctly separate. Recent checks disclose a heavy grinding noise sometimes covering 4774, plus a strong carrier on 4775. Perhaps not jamming, but certainly something new. As of Jan. 24, 4774-5 had not been heard for several days, but 6230 was heard at 1235 in language talk; local pop type vocal. RRI Jakarta also hrd on 4774 at 1200 when parallel 4719 and 4753 for news.

(BBC MS World Broadcasting Information, Jan. 17, 1980)

AFGHANISTAN The ITU International Frequency Registration Board's Tentative High Frequency Broadcasting Schedule for the period 2nd March to 4th May 1980 contains three frequency registrations which match current monitoring observations of channels carrying Radio Afghanistan's domestic service (cf. WBI Nos. 1 & 2 1980). The three frequencies - 15305, 11710 and 7235 kHz - are registered as emanating from 100-kiloWatt transmitters located in the USSR - in Voronezh, Kazan and Zhigulevsk respectively. The 15305 and 7235 kHz channels are shown as being beamed to Afghanistan and Iran, while the transmitter on 11710 kHz is targeted towards Pakistan and India. No registration is shown for a fourth channel - 6190 kHz - which is also thought to emanate from a transmitter in the USSR.

Relays of Radio Afghanistan's domestic service from transmitters in the USSR began in the first week of August 1979 with the use of 15280 and 11900 kHz (cf. WBI Nos. 32, 33 and 34 1979). They were replaced by 15305, 11710, 7235 and 6190 kHz in the fourth week of October 1979 (cf. WBI No.44 1979). However, only two of these frequencies are in operation at any one time (cf. WBI No. 2 1980).

Generally the Soviet-based transmitters have carried the same Radio Afghanistan domestic service as that emanating from transmitters in the Kabul area. However, during periods when monitoring checks were made, on two occasions the transmitters in the USSR were observed carrying different programming. These occasions were brief - on 29th December from 1640-1645 and on 10th January from 1625-1633 - and it is thought that they were possibly covering a temporary loss of the link from Kabul. There has been some evidence to show that at times Radio Afghanistan's domestic service has been picked up direct from the Kabul transmitters, possibly at the nearest Soviet satellite station or microwave/radio-relay link, for onward distribution to the transmitters in the USSR (cf. WBI No 34 1979 and No. 1 1980).

A R G E N T I N A (RAE via Carlos Maslatón)

DAILY PROGRAMMES, FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, IN ALL LANGUAGES

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
00:00	Opening	Opening	Opening	Opening	Opening
	News	News	News	News	News
	Commentary	Commentary	Commentary	Commentary	Commentary
	Tangos	Tangos	Tangos	Tangos	Tangos
	Industrial Development	Argentine Trade	Arg. Personalities Abroad	Weekly Sports Review	Argentine Achievements
	Folk Music	Folk Music	Folk Music	Folk Music	Folk Music
	Scientific Panorama	Rendez-Vous in Bs. As.	Industrial Development	Argentina in Outer Space	Catholic News
	Tangos	Tangos	Tangos	Tangos	Tangos
		This is Argentina	South Latitude Argentina	Notes on Bs. As.	Argentina's presence in the world
		Folk Music	Folk Music	Folk Music	Folk Music
00:59	News	News	News	News	News
	Close	Close	Close	Close	Close

gh: Per WRTVH 80, 6230 and 4775 are never parallel; 6230 Pgm I in Pushto/Dari; 4775 in Pgm II/III, 1130 Nurestani, 1200 Torkmani, 1300 Ozbaki, 1400 Urdu, 1530 English. Some of these languages, judging from their names, are obviously closely related to neighboring Soviet tongues.

A U S T R I A (Richard N. Allen, Billings OK) Re your statement about ORF moving to 21655 at 1230, this did not help listeners in Oklahoma. At least, I could hear 17860. Unfortunately, 21655 is usually 'unhörbar' or "unverständlich" before 1300. This situation should not improve until late-February. I send weekly report to ORF, so they should be aware of reception problems here in northern Oklahoma. Their transmissions on 9770 always suffer from QRM by Radio Havana. At 0330, 9770 also has co-channel interference from an unidentified Arabic language broadcast. The transmission on 5945 has a severe heterodyne which normally makes listening impossible. Also, the 0430 GMT broadcast on 15260 is rarely audible. Definitely a poor frequency choice for mid-winter broadcasting to North America at that hour.

B R A S I L (Maxfield Greenwood, Devon PA) Radiobrás English at 0300 is a fave-rave or more. Their presentation and critiques of their music are well-done; and the music itself is fine as you will hear anywhere--but I am prejudiced; I have always thought Brasilian music to be something special. But the most disarming and pleasantly surprising aspect of their programming format, is the part of the show called BRASIL AND THINGS BRASILIAN. These reports are compact, efficiently researched little tidbits that range anywhere from the history of delta-wing flying in Brasil, to the cost of a motorcycle. Most refreshing and straightforwardly candid, and with splashes of humor--all in all, I say someone at Radiobrás deserves my compliments.

As to what the political realities are in Brasil, they appear to steer clear, and I myself plead ignorance. But from what I have heard from some militant priests, I get the feeling the Radiobrás SW station is a much happier place than the country itself. We must not confuse SW stations and nations. They're often two different worlds altogether.

(Joe Tangredi, Las Vegas NV) The English transmissions have been trimmed back to an even 50 minutes and several new announcers have been added, including one female, as John Morris seems to have left. By the way, I have been hearing Brazil's Amazonian domestic service in Portuguese on a reactivated 15445 kHz, paralllel with 11780, but much stronger than the 25m frequency. Around 0000 until sign-off just before 0300, when the North American broadcast comes up on 15290. For some reason, that broadcast is not heard quite as well as the Amazonia service on 15445.

gh: They're not the same transmitter, as 15290 carrier already on before 15445 off. It's either too much John Morris, or too little. His great voice and style will certainly be missed.

B U L G A R I A (Dave Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) Recently, R. Sofia denied that troops were massed on Yugoslavia's borders. This makes me fear that USSR eventually will make a move there--perhaps to distract attention from further aggressions in the Middle East.

C A N A D A (Arthur S. Getzel, Flushing NY) Those wanting to keep abreast of the Canadian elections, I recommend SUNDAY MORNING on the CBC NS. A large segment of their program contains campaign coverage. Equal, and I mean really equal coverage is given to all major parties. The analysis of the issues is excellent. The strategies of each party are discussed as well as the techniques of the candidates. If only we covered our presidential elections like this. But who knows, after their own elections, we may have the honor of Canadian analysis and coverage.

gh: CBC is also providing 5-minute free-time political broadcasts Mon-Sat at 9:55 pm local, until Feb. 16. I keep forgetting to check if this is on the CBC NS; if so, probably at 0155 GMT. CBC coverage of election results begins at 8 p.m. local Mon Feb. 18; local cutaways are at :20 and :50. RCI is also expected to have special broadcasts on frequencies to be announced.

(Don Moore, Bellefonte PA) A reminder that RCI will celebrate its 35th anniversary on Feb. 25, 1980.

gh: Congratulations! Probably some special programming around that date. Also, Ian McFarland promises something special to mark the anniversary year, as he attends this year's ANARCON in Irvine. And may I take this opportunity to add my thanks as an American to Canada for getting those Americans out of Iran! And Got. & Co. had the gall to complain. Do they really think 56 hostages would have been any improvement over 50?! RCI Anniv pgms: Sat Feb 23 2000; GMT Sun NAm svc; Feb. 24 2130

(Robert L. Hoffmann II, New Hyde Park NY) RCI pairs MAILBAG and DX DIGEST! Effective GMT Jan. 28, MAILBAG from XX10 to XX18, followed by DXD XX18-XX26 in the 0100 thru 0400 broadcasts. I hope Syd Osterman likes it--it was his idea!

Glenn, you didn't go far enough in criticizing Art Getzel's comments on STAR TREK. "Trekkies" are the most disgusting creatures God ever put on this earth! Real ST fans do not go sniveling at the stars' feet--they just quietly watch and absorb the series slowly. And--Art Getzel's myopia about RCI's attitude seems the same as Mike Bolitho's...

As I write Jan. 12 at 0100-0135, 5960 sounds like a jet airplane stalled 5000 feet up. The programs have been obliterated up to now. Of course, this may be good as RCI isn't scattering over adjacent frequencies. ORF-5945 and BBC-5975 had the best signals I've ever heard from them.

Goof-up time again. Redding (I think?) at 2330 says the National Domestic Service is broadcasting on 2 frequencies, 5960 and 11850; then at 0059 he says 5960 and 11710--huh? Well, at least now the three frequencies used at 0100 are given correctly; as observed Jan. 28-29 GMT. And if AS IT HAPPENS is 'live' at 1830 EST, how can the same program go out at 1730?

gh: Surprise! The 'live' broadcast is at 1730, and the 1830 is a repeat. However, they don't spell this out, as Canada's largest audience in the EST zone would not like to be reminded that the Atlanticans are getting programs an hour of real time ahead of them.

(Louis Goldstein, Grove Hall MA) Does anyone hear RCI on both 5960 and 11850 with their evening relay of WORLD AT SIX and AS IT HAPPENS? I have been unable to get RCI on 11850 and even tried 11710 as the pretaped, inaccurate announcement nightly says--no soap. Can't they standardize the incorrect frequency announcements each weekday night between WORLD AT SIX, part 1 of AIH, before and after CBC NEWS and finally after they break away from AIH to go into half hour RCI programming? It is very irritating to us old time listeners and must be totally confusing to new listeners. Wake up, CBC. RCI, you are a reflection of your government! If you don't know what frequencies you broadcast on, well....

gh: My hand goes up. I get 11850, but not very well. If it's like previous parallels to 5960 at this hour, it's beamed out west and should be better there; as close as you are to Sackville, it's not surprising you don't get it; 5960, such as it is, should suffice. Once frequency announcements are taped, they gain a life of their own, and go on and on; tracking down all the outdated ones is a mammoth task which this station and others such as Sofia and Portugal are not equal to.

(Chester Funnyé, Atlanta GA) For the 1900 & 2000 Sunday broadcasts from RCI, the mail is answered in continuality. Why can't the N. American mailbag be the same? It answers more letters and gets more out of their way. I enjoyed Larry Magne's report on jamming very much. I wonder does Peking jam Moscow. And do Canadian MW stations verify reception reports? If so, I will send some.

gh: It certainly seems as if the N. American production staff have an awful easy time of it in putting together a tiny mailbag segment of 8 minutes or so. It would seem they could easily double that into two editions, or even quadruple it matching the 4 editions of neighbor DX DIGEST, especially since it sounds as if they are 'winging it', rarely doing any research or special preparation for the MAILBAG. But I suspect the mailbag is just something that has to be stuck in as an extra chore sometime during the 5-day work week (which I certainly don't begrudge them) in addition to the program to be produced for whatever day they tape it on. Yes, Peking does jam Moscow, and how! I expect some Canadian MW stations do verify, and some don't. What difference does it make?

(Andrew Smith, Chandlers Ford, Hants.) Besides SRI, I also find RCI has some rather dull weekday programmes. I always listen to them on Saturdays and Sundays. When will SRI and RCI improve weekday programmes?

(Joel Rubin, CA & NY) A few months ago, it was said on RCI mailbox that CBCNS doesn't carry hockey. I've heard them carrying the "Habs" (Habitants du Canada--the Montréal Canadiens) in French, e.g. on EST Dec. 21, around EST 2100, parallel to CBF-690. Of course, the Habs ain't hockey in Québec--they're religion.

The best CBC outlet in northern California seems to be CKZU, 6160 kHz, Vancouver (400 watts). It IDs as CBC-British Columbia. On good days, it is audible during all hours of darkness, with some QRM from adjacent channel Radio Nederland, especially during ISes. Unfortunately, it is not audible every day. I'd appreciate knowing if someone has another candidate. The Canadian border on the west coast is much to the north of the border on the east coast, and some CBC channels are totally blocked by stations on the same channel. In particular, CBU, 690 Vancouver cannot be heard due to XETRA which, I suspect, beams north (They advertise in and program for the L.A.-San Diego area) (It would be good to know with NS going native.)

gh: CBC Program Guide points out regular weekly features within AS IT HAPPENS; Mon JOCK TALK, on sports. Tue, EASY MONEY probes economics, energy and labor. Wed, AS IT HAPPENED, a look at years gone by. Thu, EUREKA, science. Fri NIGHT THEATER (this one taking the entire last third, of course). On Feb. 11 BOOKTIME (10:20 pm local on MW only) begins a new 10-part reading from "But We Are Exiles" by Kroetsch, abridged by Rod Langley, read by Lee Taylor. Love, hate and jealousy are the themes of this gripping novel set on the MacKenzie River, against the ever-present dangers of a harsh environment. Runs Mon-Fri; however, Feb. 13, thru Feb. 22 (except election night), delayed until 11:04 pm because of special Winter OLYMPIC REPORTS at 10:20-10:59. MOSTLY MUSIC also delayed to a 11:20 pm start running full length so that ECLECTIC CIRCUS gets cut to 15 minutes at 12:44 am.

OLYMPIC HOCKEY is scheduled Sat Feb. 16 at 8:30 pm, Canada vs. Finland; Wed Feb. 20 at 5:00 pm, Canada vs. Soviet Union, apparently even pre-empting AS IT HAPPENS; and if Canada is in the finals, another game Fri Feb. 22 at 5 or 8:30 pm EST.

Briefer Olympic reports are scheduled on CBC Radio thrice weekdays--at breakfast, between 12:15 and 12:45 noon; and at 5:15 pm (5 min). Sats. Feb. 16 & 23, 1:05 pm and 6:15 pm. Suns 10:05 pm.

Better enjoy CBC PLAYHOUSE while you can (Tues. 8:04 pm) as it may be a casualty in the Mar. 31 shakeup. Some good reruns are scheduled: Feb. 12, "The Sisters" by Silver Donald Cameron. A local legend about two rocks which form a shoal at the mouth of a Nova Scotia harbour provides the thrust for this lyrical tragedy about sibling rivalry. Cast: Jennifer Browne, Jay Bowen, Elva Mai Hoover, Mia Anderson, Frank Perry and Sandy Webster as the narrator. Specially commissioned music features NS singer-songwriter Stan Rogers. Directed by Bill Howell. Feb. 19, "Channel 2" by Steven Freygood. A tragic comedy of the 21st century dealing with telepathic television--play the roles yourself, but be careful, it's addictive! Joan Gregson stars, with Bill Fulton, Graham Whitehead and Eleanore Lindo. Directed by Don Allison in Halifax.

I'd also like to put in a word for two Saturday evening programs, which I can hear via CBL-740: 9:05 pm IN OTHER WORDS, Warren Davis focusing on the lively arts and literary fare from other countries; and 10:05 pm ANTHOLOGY of poetry; and too, 11:05 pm MUSIC FROM THE SHOWS.

As if all the public radio and TV promotions in the US this time of year aren't enough, "CBC Radio Week" has been declared for Feb. 24-Mar. 1. At least they won't be asking for money (directly) but there's to be a big publicity campaign, 'star-studded specials' etc., designed to attract the 20 million (83%) Canadians who do not even listen to CBC Radio or CBC Stereo once a week. Launching the week is a live concert from the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Toronto, Sun. Feb. 24 at 7-9 pm EST. There'll be something else special each night of the week. The Sunday concert will be host/ess/ed by Barbara Frum, with artists such as jazz pianist Oscar Peterson; opera soprano Lois Marshall with Toronto Symphony harpist Judy Loman; percussion group Nexus; pop singer Tommy Ambrose; Rimouski-born classical pianist André Laplante; story-teller W. O. Mitchell; a "celebrity band"; and==The Royal Canadian Airfarce crew. (info from CBC Guides; some of the wording is theirs --gh)

Thanks to Ian McFarland for supplying some CBF-690 schedules, which are a great rarity, and may typify or even identicalify Radio-Canada (CBC National French network) programming also on other stations such as CJBC-860 Toronto heard more easily here than CBF. There seem to be significant changes week to week, partly to accomodate hockey, but this information from two January weeks may quickly outdate; evening hours only; EST:

Sats: 1800 DE TOUS LES POINTS DU MONDE (news). 1820 DIALOGUE (religious discussion). 1903 C' EST PARTOUT PAREIL (problems shared by France, Switzerland, Belgium and Canada; documentary). 2003 one week DJ program DANIEL GUERARD; the next week moved to 2308 and at 2003 LE VOYAGE (research on non-traditional life-styles). 2200 LE MONDE CE SOIR (news). 2210 LE VOYAGE. 0103-0108 PENSÉES DE LA NUIT (reading from famous authors, suitable for meditation).

Suns: 1800 DE TOUS LES POINTS DU MONDE (news). 1820 GENS DE MON PAYS (one week from Ottawa, another from Toronto). 1903 À TOI JEAN-MAURICE (sports anecdotes, interviews, scores, music). 2200 LE MONDE CE SOIR (news). 2210 À TOI JEAN MAURICE. 0003-0008 PENSÉES DE LA NUIT.

Mon-Fri: 1730 DE TOUS LES POINTS DU MONDE (news). 1755 COMMENTAIRE by guest speakers. 1800 PRÉSENT (daily actuality magazine). 1840 D'UN SOLEIL À L'AUTRE (agriculture). 1903 PRÉSENT À L' ÉCOUTE (phone-in show sometimes with guest). 2003 AUX VINGT HEURES (DJ show with some features) (often pre-empted or truncated for hockey). 2200 LE MONDE CE SOIR (news). 2215 or 2230 COUDON (a "Reader's Digest" for the ear with music, talk, comedy spots). 2308 PAR QUATRE CHEMINS ("Les propos de Jacques Languirand sur les grandeurs et les singularités du comportement humain"). 0003 PENSÉES DE LA NUIT. 0008-0100 ALLIAGE (from Ottawa; an hour of quality words and music)

CBF-690 et Réseau français

C H I N A (George J. Poppin, San Francisco CA) Another historical first for me--the first time I heard a song sung in English on any PRC radio station was Jan. 21 from PBS Harbin, Hailongjiang on 4924 kHz, 1335-1354 GMT. First a man and woman in a duet with accordion accompaniment; a pleasant melody in clear distinct English; good pronunciation and they did a good job with "As We Forward March", repeated another verse: "I love Peking...our Chairman Mao...As we forward march"; also Chinese operatic music heard. Very entertaining and SINPO 4+4433.

C O L O M B I A (Beverly Slomka, Brooklyn NY) As Ken MacHarg reported in Dec RIB, Radio Nacional de Colombia is a treat for classical music lovers. I listened to them on 15335, GMT Sun. Jan. 27 at 0230-0400. Except for a few announcements in Spanish, there was continuous classical music. It was truly enjoyable.

C Z E C H O S L O V A K I A (Andrew Smith, Hants.) R. Prague is sending out text books to all listeners called "Chile: An Accusation and a Warning" in English. This is in addition to their calendar.

gh: Sob! I didn't get one. I still treasure the linen calendars they once sent.

E C U A D O R (Jeff White, Schaumburg IL) HCJB certainly does not neglect the Galápagos Islands, simply because of their association with Darwin. In fact, several HCJB staff members took a trip to those islands in 1978. They were invited by a Galápagos resident to put on some evangelical meetings there. The response from the islanders was fantastic, and there was an article about the trip in the May-July 1978 "HCJB Radio Log". Also, a few years ago, HCJB issued a series of QSL cards featuring various photos of the Galápagos. In my opinion, they are some of the best QSLs HCJB ever issued.

(Ralf F. Munster, Decatur GA) On Jan. 29 GMT, I encountered HCJB at 0527 with SONGS IN THE NIGHT on 15105. As a consequence I couldn't hear Kol Israel at all on 15105. As you know in recent weeks HCJB switched back and forth between 15115 and 15120. Isn't HCJB supposed to be a Christian broadcasting station?

gh: It certainly is. When I checked Feb. 2 at 0522, they were on 15115 as usual with Israel clear on 15105; perhaps a one-time error? While HCJB's "Shalom" broadcasts designed to convert Israeli Jews into Christians are detested in Israel, it is unlikely HCJB is overtly hostile to Israel. In fact, almost half of DX PARTY LINE Jan. 31 was devoted to giving the entire schedule for Kol Israel new prime-time service to the Americas.

E L S A L V A D O R (BBC MS World Broadcasting Information, Jan. 24) The YSKL Network reported Jan. 21 that members of the "People's Revolutionary Army" had temporarily seized 21 radio stations throughout the country. They used the opportunity to announce i.a. that their own radio station, "Radio Revolucionaria del Pueblo" would begin broadcasting in the central departments of the country from 1600 on Jan. 22. Listeners were advised to look for the station between 1400 and 1600 kHz.

gh: That's a big help! Will the entire Salvadorian Revolution by Radio be conducted on MW? Shucks.

F I N L A N D (Richard N. Allen, Billings OK) Radio Finland is good here at 1300 and 1430 hours on 15400 kc/s. They pack a lot of good programs into their short transmissions. I only wish other shortwave stations did as well with their time.

F R A N C E (Chester Funnyé, Atlanta GA) RFI is one of my favourite stations. But I don't understand why all French eyes are focused on Africa. I'm sure there are listeners in other continents that want to hear their mailbag call. It's not fair. It might be different if they had more than one English broadcast. "Outsiders" have less of a chance than African listeners of winning contests and prizes. After all, Africa is the least developed of the continents (exc. Antarctica); it is the dark spot for SWLs who want African stations.

G E R M A N Y E A S T (Chester Funnye, Atlanta GA) I want to thank Ralf Munster for sending me the present schedule of RBI. I find that sometimes, RBI is audible at 1415 and 1530 to Southeast Asia. That is most likely the best time to listen.

(Robert L. Hoffmann II, just inside NY City and far from both Willowick and Kalamazoo) It seems the socialist/communist stations' schedule departments are run by perverted masochists. Moscow sends out up to 15 frequencies at a time to North America; RMWS has 5 MW frequencies to Europe at 2200. And RBI. Now, if I figure it right, RBI's programs are 1 hour long, starting at 0100, 0230, 0330, 0445, 0645, 1200, 1315, 1400, 1415 (look at the last three times!), 1530, 1615 (look at those two!), 1745, 1800 (again), 1915, 2000, 2030 (uh huh), 2130. Guess this is how East Germany punishes renegade technicians--put them in the transmitter room when 2 or 3 programs overlap! For those of you who will tell me that other stations are worse, think: they usually only air one program in any one language at once (except RCI at 1900 GMT)--not one program at 1400 and the same one at 1415! 'Tis notable that none of them are audible in North America??!!

gh: It's not quite all that bad. They're 45-minute, not an hour; and any that overlap are to different target areas. All other language broadcasts (I think) are 45 minutes too, which means that once a cycle to a certain target area starts, a given language is 'stuck' in a certain slot even if it does overlap the same language in another target area service. No big deal.

G E R M A N Y W E S T (Chester Funnyé, Georgia) Glenn, do you know the frequencies for the RFE English broadcast at 2150? If so please let me know. I have always wanted to know what was beamed at the Iron Curtain.

gh: Yes, I do. Heard recently on 11770 only, the frequency in use since November (tho some have reported 15255, I've never heard it there and think it was used only a week or two interimly). Reception is not very good; they may go back to a 15 MHz channel for spring or summer. Via Portugal.

G R E E C E (Mark Ward, Jan. WDXC Contact) One of the most important news items last month was the announcement that the government of Greece had turned down an American request to use the two relay

bases of the VOA in that country for the VOA's new Iranian Service. The reasons for this were Greece's desire to avoid involvement in the current US-Iranian antagonism and the recent malaise in US-Greek relations, which has held up the signing of a new contract ensuring the continuance of the existing VOA relays on Greek soil.

gh: Well, I think this must have been resolved, as BBC MS reports Kavala being used for Iran beam.

G R E N A D A (Andy Sennitt, DSWCI SW News) An amusing story: a few weeks ago, R. Free Grenada was attempting to relay a football match, sponsored by Grenada Breweries, but all they could pick up was a loud 'hum'. After 30 minutes of apologies and music, they appealed on the air for one of the on-site engineers to telephone the station. Whether they did, I'm not sure, but within minutes they had started saying 'why not go down to Queens Park and see for yourself this great football match.." BBC Sport was never like this !

gh: I've noticed a report in NNRC that the OBITUARIES we all enjoy are actually secret coded messages to spies. No source and no justification for this allegation were given.

G U I N E A - B I S S A U (Maxfield Greenwood, PA) Those able to receive this country on 5040, at sign on 0600 until 0710 or so will get a treat, if they go for really exotic stuff. From 0615 to 0700 two nights (Jan. 21, 24) a woman with vocal support and back rhythm music, sings continuously in a spellbinding, undulating chant. Mesmerizing stuff. Station goes into world news in Portuguese at 0705 and signal collapses at 0710 with their sunrise, so this opportunity will be brief, I suspect.

G U I A N A F R E N C H (Maxfield Greenwood, PA) Starting at 0110, FR3 on 3385 has a show called DISCOTHÈQUE CAFÉ "la musique du Congo", which is really a French Latin American Caribbean music mix that is quite marvellous and not heard on too many places in the broadcast bands; and being familiar with this region, it is beautiful to travel back, free of charge, to pleasant memories. Curiously, they have one hype-jingle in English "The best music, the best music!". They do have some English funkedelic, but even this is a good deal better than standard disco music. This show was heard on a Saturday GMT, and I do not yet know if it is nitely; it runs to 0300, when station signs off with "Marseillaise" and a guitar melody; SIO 423 with excellent modulation.

H U N G A R Y (Charlie Schancer, Brooklyn NY) Re RIB 35 item on "Bear Dipping", maybe it should be "Bare (skinny) dipping"? Too bad they're not on TV! Didn't think that the weather is right for it anyway!

(Chester Funnyé, Atlanta GA) Does anyone know what the noise is on the 0200 transmission of R. Budapest? It has the best, or nearly the best DX programme behind the Iron Curtain.

gh. Which frequency refer you to? I'm still not certain what is messing up 9835; perhaps instead of a badly aligned R. Budapest transmitter, it's from an external source. This wideband white noise as best I can describe it, also peaks around 9490 damaging Moscow's formerly best frequency, and others over a broad range of kHz. However, at one point it seems as if it were a local problem of mine, as a Florida DXer on the phone said he was not getting the noise when I was...?

I R A N (Ken MacHarg, Jeffersonville IN) I haven't heard VOIRI much, but was interested to note that interviews with hostages have been carried--hadn't heard about that in any other media. I wonder if anyone is monitoring it to get in touch with the hostages' families? Arthur Cushen mentions that type of service being provided during WWII, the Korean Conflict, and the Viet-nam war for families of POWs. Often times that was the only contact or knowledge that a family had of missing persons. I suppose the govt. is monitoring them, but whether the word gets to families or not is another question.

gh: I can see why hostages would be taken by barbarians to give them political leverage; I cannot see why in most cases the hostages are not only held, but 'brainwashed' to say things against their will. Isn't just detaining them enough? If the barbarians understood American respect for human life, they would be content to kidnap without torturing.

(David Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) Are the Marxist militants holding our hostages hoping to goad USA into military action so that the good old USSR can 'rescue' the 'Iranian people' from American imperialist aggression? At any rate, in view of recent events in Afghanistan, my comment in Jan. RIB p. 16 seems naive. When Great Britain pulled out of "East of Suez" only the Shah was left there to deter the USSR bear. Future Russian atrocities in Iran will make the Shah's activities seem almost benign.

I R A Q (Maxfield Greenwood, PA) Flying saucers and R. Baghdad. Well, now I know there is something going on. A YL read a report on visits by 'critters' from outer space. She was, I'm sure,

trying to say creatures, but it did come out as critters. Is it a bird, a plane? No, it's a critter! Most of the report was based on an international meeting in California--where else?--for the purpose of unifying evidence of existence of extra-terrestrial 'critters'. Young lady said the report concluded that evidence was quite overwhelming as to the reality of UFOs and such. Well, Baghdad, I'll second that motion. Now if only I could DX one: that sure would shake a few timbers.

I R E L A N D (Mike Burden, Newark, England) R. Condor International, broadcasting from Dublin, is again using the odd frequency of 11463 kHz. It broadcasts every Sunday at 0900-1400, having apparently abandoned its old 48 meter channel of 6243.3 kHz. According to announcements, the station staff are hoping that broadcasts on the new channel will be receivable in North America, and reports are welcome at RCI, c/o FRC-Ireland, 53 Charleston Road, Dublin 6.

Boyneside Radio is a local station in Drogheda on the east coast of Ireland, broadcasting on AM 1314 kHz. However, the transmitter is also radiating a harmonic, probably deliberately amplified, on 1314 x 5, i.e. 6570 kHz. It can be heard on this channel at 0700-2100 GMT daily, and there is just a chance it could be heard in North America at 0700 or soon after. The station's address is 14, Mill Lane, Drogheda, Co. Louth, Ireland.

I S R A E L (Jerusalem Post International Edition Jan. 6-12 via Dan Long, Murrysville PA)

Kol Yisrael will resume prime-time radio to U.S.

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Kol Yisrael will, after six years of silenced transmitters, broadcast shortwave radio programmes to North and South America during their peak listening times starting February 1.

Broadcasting Authority director-general Yosef Lapid last week announced the "breakthrough" during an appearance before the Knesset's Aliya and Absorption Committee.

Lapid told *The Jerusalem Post* later that he viewed the agreement to broadcast to the Americas as a major achievement. The last time American Jews heard Kol Yisrael's programmes during prime-time (early evening) hours was during the Yom Kippur War.

Broadcasts were stymied by demands by radio technicians for more pay for working after midnight Israel time and changes in working conditions, and by disagreements with the World Zionist Organization over funding.

During the month before the programmes are to begin, the Broadcasting Authority will conduct negotiations with technicians, who had agreed that if no compromise were reached Kol Yisrael could use outside studios to broadcast the programmes.

Meanwhile, the WZO — which funds the programmes — had discontinued financial support for the broadcasts because of the technicians' refusal to work after midnight. The WZO was also upset that it had no control over broadcast content even though it was paying for the programmes.

The WZO has now set up a committee to decide how many hours of broadcasts it is willing to finance.

(Chester Funnyé, Atlanta GA, Jan. 21) I can't wait for the "Prime Time" service of Kol Israel to start. It shows there are some stations that care about North America, unlike Deutsche Welle and RFI. I wonder if the programmes will be the same as the other four English broadcasts. I think they should drop the news on Sunday and allow 20 minutes for CALLING ALL LISTENERS and 10 minutes for DX CORNER.

gh: The 2230, 0000, 0100 and 0200 transmissions are identical, including the news. It was this or nothing.

(Ken MacHarg, Jeffersonville IN) I had a conversation with Jaacov Keinan, the Israeli government's man in charge of relations with foreign correspondents when he visited Louisville recently. He seemed surprised (1) that I could hear Kol Israel here, and (2) that KI was considering a 'prime time' broadcast to North America. That was evidently news to him. In good journalistic style I asked him his opinion of U.S. coverage of Middle Eastern, and especially Israeli affairs. He said that in general he felt U.S. media were very fair--especially the wire services which didn't have the pressure of ratings. He did hint however that there are too many reporters in Israel. That glut tends to exaggerate any event there beyond its importance. He said that if you took all of those reporters to some other country like Zaire, then we would know more than we really want to know about that country as well.

(Robert L. Hoffmann II, New Hyde Park NY) How many Russians live in North America? 4 or 6, right? Not counting embassy personnel! Then why is Kol Israel including a Russian broadcast in the prime-time service (at 0300)?

gh: Your estimate is a little off. I understand that there are hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants from the USSR--more of them wind up here than in Israel. Somewhere in New York City, for example, there's a "Little Odessa". And the embassy personnel need something besides Mayak to listen to! The 0300 Russian broadcast has long been on the air to the Soviet Union; there would have been an hour 'gap' in the prime-time service between the last Spanish and the 0400 Hebrew, and it was a simple matter to head one of the many frequencies toward North America--so why not? By the way, even this frequency is being jammed, as are some of the Hebrew and Yiddish broadcasts, even tho those transmissions are not broadcast toward the USSR at all.

There seems to be quite a turnover in English language announcers lately. CALLING ALL ANN-- oops, I mean CALLING ALL LISTENERS has suffered as a result, with two similar-sounding male voices. However Rosalind Gelsa was back at last doing the news on the inaugural prime time broadcast. Though it was a coincidence with a Thursday night start, the I.P.T.B. also contained the arts program STUDIO THREE, which I would like to symbolize an expansion in this programming area. Good stuff, about how an English-speaking writer in Israel functions apart from the Hebrew literary establishment, and he read some of his work including some nice female anatomical references. More, more!

However, the multi-lingual sendoff at 2300 Jan. 31 boded ill, as various Israeli officials spoke about how the new service would more effectively reach the Diaspora, and very much secondarily, be a 'beacon to the Gentiles'. It is about time Kol Israel took its blinders off and realized that the great majority of its potential audience is non-Jewish. And it would be a good investment in preserving the state of Israel and preventing another holocaust, to concentrate on telling Israel's story to the non-Jewish world, rather than to the Diaspora, who already know it very well.

(IBA press release, Jan. 18) Israel Radio's award-winning 'source' newscasts can now be heard each evening covering events in the sensitive Middle East region. Veteran correspondents provide reliable firsthand accounts often not available from other sources. Israel Radio also monitors Middle East broadcasts and other radio communications to provide immediate insight into unfolding political and military developments. By using shortwave radio, instead of satellites and redistribution systems, newscasts are free from intervening delay or editing. These frequent specialized newscasts ensure that regardless of restraints that may inhibit news gathering, Americans have at least one dependable source of timely, impartial, and complete reporting of Middle East developments.

(Joel Rubin, Berkeley CA) Jewish holidays usually mean special programs on Voice of Israel. On Feb. 1-2 was Tu B-Shevat (Arbor Day--probably some recollections of old pioneers about how tough it was to plant eucalyptus trees to drain the malarial swamps), and on Mar. 1-2, Purim (Feb. 27-28 Fast of Esther). The book of Esther is read in synagogue and little children boo Haman's name during the reading (and use noisemakers). Carnivals are held, and Israelis exchange gifts. Adults are told, in the Talmud, to get so drunk they don't know the difference between "Bless Mordecai" and "Curse Haman". The only time Jewish law makes it anything but a sin to drink to excess!

(Russell Shapiro, Jan. WDXC Contact) Despite the fact that technically jamming was not supposed to be raised at WARC since it does not exist, the Israeli delegation managed to get a statement issued as part of the minutes of the conference. Although it mentioned no names and in the interests of world peace, harmony and détente, I would not dream of identifying the Soviet Union, the delegation stated that "the administration of a certain country has regularly jammed all our external high frequency broadcasts in several languages including Russian, Yiddish and Hebrew. We wish to point out that only some of these jammed broadcasts are beamed to that country, addressing only the Jewish Community and they are purely cultural, religious and general information in nature". It was stated that Israel had never attempted to jam Hebrew and Yiddish broadcasts of that administration beamed to Israel (Radio Peace & Progress) and that the same administration also jams broadcasts for the benefit of audiences in Europe and America (Hebrew 1700 GMT 17630 and 1830 broadcasts). It's unlikely that this will have any effect until the ITU faces reality and it's unlikely that Israel was threatening retaliation by emphasising they had never attempted jamming.

(Des Colling, WDXC editor) Jamming is the policy of a basically frightened and threatened administration. If your system has to be hidden from your own people, or even if it is sufficiently insecure that you cannot risk your own people hearing lies about it, then jamming is your only defence. If your system is obviously providing your population with a poorer way of life than that enjoyed by comparable countries, then you can't afford to let your people hear about the other system, if you are set on sustaining it. This I think is why jamming is unlikely to be ended. The changes in Iran have demonstrated the power of broadcasting--how many people would have remembered the existence of the Ayatollah Khomeini after so many years in exile, if it had not been for his broadcasts? No doubt about it, shortwave radio is a real threat if you happen to be running a repressive regime, of whatever political persuasion.

(Louis Goldstein, Grove Hall MA) Ironic it is, after the public airing of IBA's and Michael Fine's disagreements, he was interviewed on the THIS WEEK segment of Kol Israel Dec. 1. It was in his capacity of a worker leaving the oil fields in the desert after it was returned to Egypt. It was a good interview and it was nice hearing Michael "Shafir" on the air again. He is missed by many of us who appreciated his contributions and innovative programming on Kol Israel. Second best thing is to read him in RIB. Good luck, Michael!

I T A L Y (Christian Ghibaudo, Dec. COCQ L'Onde) Listeners to Radio-TV-Città in Milan can, if they correctly answer questions posed Saturday nights on the NATIVE PYJAMAS program, win a night with a young Italian girl.

(Michel Baron, COCQ Ed.) What time and frequency?

K O R E A S O U T H (William Krause, Anoka MN) Tho omitted from the November RIB BIE QRL, the Radio Korea 'omnidirectional' transmission at 0400 GMT on 15570 comes in as well as the 1600 GMT transmission and may be at a more convenient time for many, who would enjoy listening to Radio Korea. It is one of those rare stations that seem to cater to that much-maligned creature, the ardent DXer. It is an exceptionally prompt verifier, offering some very nice pennants also. Their

news, while certainly from their own perspective, with one noteable exception is about as reliable on most matters as major western broadcasters and more so than some communist ones. Their commentaries could certainly be construed as propaganda, but they are of relatively short duration. Most importantly, I find there is no sense of the political prevading the entire broadcast as is the case with a great many stations of a wide variety of political persuasions. The other programs are generally informative and interesting. I am particularly fond of their cultural feature programs. I think they enable the listener to get a rather good insight into Korean cultural affairs. One of the major reasons I listen to SW radio is to learn about faraway and interesting peoples and places. Radio Korea helps me do this. The price of even a very good shortwave receiver is certainly a lot less than roundtrip airfare to Soul.

M O N G O L I A (Syd Osterman, Toronto Ont.) Ulan Bator Calling! Mongolia and the city of Ulan Bator--both names with an aura of mystery in the world of DX-SW listening. Historically interesting, geographically remote and until recently, almost impossible to hear ! 60mb reception in Mongolian and Chinese might have been parlayed into a QSL card. However, I wanted to hear and tape the English program. The 1220-1250 transmission listed on 12070 seemed the best choice--except that it coincided with a morning ablutions time. Thus requiring several shower-dampened, shaving-soaped dates with my radio! No, I could not pre-set and tape this one--at my QTH, exact tuning to the actual 12068 kHz frequency is required. Plus much sideband and notch fiddling to avoid QRM. Otherwise all you hear is USSR. To cut an interesting story short, I finally heard a full program with about 75% readability.

After sign-on proceedings, "This is Radio Ulan Bator, broadcasting for listeners in the Far East and Southeast Asia", a world news bulletin with emphasis on the usual Afghanistan area phantasmagoria. This was followed by a MAILBAG program with letters mainly from the ubiquitous Japanese, although there was one from Portsmouth, England. The answers were quite comprehensive, involving the history of Ulan Bator, Mongolian folk lore and folk music, including some low-pitched undulating pipe music. I did note one letter from an Arab-sounding gentleman, residing in Jerusalem. He was rewarded with the rather ironic choice of a girl singing, in Mongolian, a folk song entitled 'The Wandering Jew'!

Philatelists were catered to by a short stamp program from the president of the Stamp Collecting Club of Mongolia. From this I learned that the first Mongolian stamp was issued in 1924. The sign-off announcement was enlightening, "never on Sunday" but their reference to Monday silence is only in terms of local time for the 1715 broadcast. The English spoken varied from heavily accented to pukka impeccable.

Although Gerry Bishop commented via Jan. 27 DX DIGEST that Ulan Bator is on 12070, I zero beat the USSR station on 12070 and 2 kHz below there is another carrier. This is Ulan Bator and the problem is to avoid as much of the QRM as possible. I can achieve virtually single signal reception --something that would not be possible were the two frequencies coincident. Good reception on a Saturday is, I think, merely propagation related. Have also heard them doing pretty well on Thursday and Friday. However, if you want to hear the MAILBAG, Saturday is the day.

I am rather immodestly pleased with my reception of Ulan Bator, and despite the added chore of wiping shaving soap off my headphones and receiver knobs, I have no intention of growing a beard. Although I can now understand why many active DXers have done so!

N E T H E R L A N D S (R. Nederland DX JUKEBOX Jan. 17, transcribed by gh, introduced by Frits Greveling, following a selection of excerpts from Oct, Nov and Dec RIBs) We here at Radio Nederland feel that our views should also be heard, especially since we don't think the comments were fair. And therefore I've asked our Director of Programs, Bert Steinkamp, for his views:

"Thank you, Frits. Two points strike me most of all, in Mr. Hauser's strongly-worded comments. First that he as a regular contributor to our programmes, couldn't find an opportunity to ask what our position was, or even to verify his facts. Secondly, that he appears to believe that government decisions can be influenced by the outcome of popularity polls. Well, I know for certain that Dutch government decisions cannot. DX programming, for instance, was one of the most hotly contested issues in the government's cost/benefit study of our operation in 1976.

"When the ISWC poll was announced last year, we decided to publicize it. We've been aware of its nature and the way it's been conducted in the past. No one, as far as I know, will consider it to be 'scientific'. No one at Radio Nederland ever will. Why should we? In my opinion, the medium of shortwave broadcasting is in constant danger of losing ground as a result of economic or political decisions in the originating countries. As a result, any organisation trying to promote a wider knowledge of the medium and its possibilities, and its effects, should come under consideration for our support.

"Mr. Hauser's criticism strengthens the impression coming from time to time from DX circles as if shortwave broadcasting serves hobby purposes only. If it did, the medium would die tomorrow.

Shortwave broadcasting tries to serve an international audience, and in our view, by providing unbiased, reliable information of a varied nature as well as forms of entertainment. There is a potential general audience of hundreds of millions.

"Against budget pressure, we try to serve specialist groups as well. To name a few, development workers; churchmen abroad and at mission posts, seaman, and--DXers. We do not expect our listeners to agree with our every word or action. But I would think that unfounded criticism doesn't help anyone."

gh: The pages of RIB are always open to broadcasters to explain their positions, even before they take controversial actions. I am glad to make this space available now, though it required my own initiative in transcribing Mr. Steinkamp's remarks. I do not want to be in the position of always having the last word, so at the risk of prolonging the discussion unnecessarily, I invite Mr. Steinkamp to reply to the following comments if he wishes. First, let me make it clear that my 'strong' criticism derived from my embarrassment and chagrin in finding that the station with whom I had had such a long association decided to publicize this poll to the hilt. I had received the impression previously that Radio Nederland was among those broadcasters, like RCI and R. Sweden, who had realized that publicizing such polls at all on the air of the stations in the running, could only unfairly affect the outcome. Perhaps this enlightened 'policy' departed with Dick Speekman. However, if he were still running DX JUKE BOX he would certainly have had to go along with this high-level decision. I do not feel that Mr. Steinkamp has been fair to me in his comments above, nor are they responsive to the real issue. There is certainly no disagreement among us that SWBC is of great value and should be promoted. The question is, whether this kind of promotion served this end, and whether it was ethical. I did not ask what Radio Nederland's position was on this matter, because I thought it was patently obvious--to get as many of Radio Nederland's listeners as possible to take part in the poll. I fail to see how mentioning the poll in every program for three months, to the detriment of those programs and to the boredom of the listeners, served the great goal of promoting SWBC. I was previously led to believe that Radio Nederland's winning previous ISWC polls was brought to the attention of government funding agencies as proof of its value. Many listeners will recall that Radio Nederland did not hesitate to bill itself as 'the most popular radio station in the world'. It is hard to see how such a claim could not influence government funding support. If the ISWC is making any effort to publicize SWBC outside the SWBC community itself, I am unaware of it.

I am astounded that Mr. Steinkamp accuses me of the narrowminded conception of SWBC as serving hobby purposes only. This contradicts everything I have done in the "RIB movement". He talks as if DX programming is done only as a minority service, however, as if the DXer listeners were getting more out of it than R. Nederland does. While DXers certainly are a minority, the DX program generates a tremendous amount of mail and good will. Those not directly involved in international broadcasting may not be aware what a great influence on a station's funding letter count statistics can be. I doubt that any other single Radio Nederland program gets more listener mail than DX JUKEBOX, with the probable exception of HAPPY STATION (I would welcome exact statistics on this).

By the way, I heard Roberto Levinstein hint on their Portuguese DX program, that at least among Portuguese speaking listeners, Radio Nederland was likely to be the winner. How does he know? He's helping ISWC translate and tally voting in that language. While his integrity is not in question, it still looks rather odd for someone connected with the likely winner to be a vote counter. By the way, the Portuguese DX program on Thursdays has been transformed from RÁDIO-ATIVIDADE into ONDA-CURTIÇÃO, now taking up the entire broadcast after the news, and mixed in with the Dutch hit parade. The "Jukebox" syndrome strikes again!

Finally, I want to make clear that this is a disagreement among friends. Because of Radio Nederland's basic integrity I felt free to disagree pubicly with one of their policies, and I have not had any hint of any reprisal for having done so.

(Ken MacHarg, Jeffersonville IN) It seems to me that in his January article, Kim Andrew Elliott is describing Radio Nederland. While RN does cover political commentary, etc., that station does so in a very listenable way, with an emphasis on personality, informality in other programming, and variety. I think that one of the reasons for that station's success in recent years has been the informal style of programming, and the feeling that the listener is important to the station. Tom Meijer, for example, gives the impression that listener-writers are friends, known to him, not just annoyances which he has to tolerate. When I called one of his call-in shows some time ago, he recognized my name immediately, remembered that I had been a listener for some years, knew that I had lived in Panamá before coming to Indiana, and that I have a friend in Turkey who is also a regular listener. Now that is a personal contact you don't find elsewhere, and one that makes shortwave radio unique!

(Maxfield Greenwood, Devon PA) On Mondays in the 1830 transmission they have a program that is, in my opinion, totally first-rate, AFRO-SCENE. It is real tell-it-like-it-is journalism; along with

fine Afro music and some letters from listeners that I have found to be, at times, quite emotive and telling. And in one report, delivered by a Dutch journalist, (Reneir Bandalu ?) I heard a behind-the-scenes description of what is going on in Uganda. And I tell you it was sensational. I learned more about Uganda in his 15-minute report than I could have learned in a month of reading the New York Times. This show is on 11730 and 17605.

gh: It's also on Wednesdays and Fridays, and also in the 2030 transmission on 21640, 17695, 17605, 15220 and 11730.

P A K I S T A N (David K. Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) Why must the newscaster who speaks excellent English so slowly, repeat every single sentence? Most tiresome.

gh: Because it's dictation, designed to be copied down rather than listened to in real time. Considering the unreliability of R. Pakistan reception over here, I'd say it's a help.

P A P U A N E W G U I N E A (Syd Osterman, Ont.) Recently presented on NBC Port Moresby, 4890,, was the BBC-produced SCIENCE MAGAZINE. Strange to hear as I tuned across it, since pukka BBC English is not heard very often on the 60mb. The music of Mozart is also somewhat rare from PNG. I recently heard Mozart piano sonatas played by Ingrid Haebler. Rather nice to have the local listeners exposed to music other than popo-disco or the Line Cousin Ladies and Rockin' Rabaul!

Latest local news items sound rather familiar! The death toll on the raods was two by Jan. 2nd. Also a university study showed that alcohol was a major factor in road accidents. It called for restricted drinking hours. Vandalism in a Solomons school resulted in the arrest of five people. And finally, the inevitable oil price increase was announced. Yes indeed, the joys of civilization are very evident in PNG !

(Dave Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) Most of PNG's programming is a disappointment. However, I suppose that rock music is fine for head hunters!

(BBC MS World Broadcasting Information Jan. 24) R. Australia announced that from Jan. 20 it would broadcast a special daily bulletin of world, Australian and Pacific news at 0900 for listeners in the Pacific and PNG areas. It would be on 17725, 15145 and 6045. The 21680 and 21570 kHz channels would continue to broadcast the regular 0900 General Service bulletin of world news.

P O L A N D (WDXC Dec Express News Service) Polish Radio, commenting on their recent questionnaire, stated that the results show that only 20% of their listeners listen or prefer to listen over weekends; the weekday figure is 50%. Again 50% preferred to listen to the 2230 GMT airing, with 0630 being next(?) followed by 1600, 1830 and finally 1200 GMT. Some said they listen daily, most 2 or 3 times a week, with PANORAMA, MAILBAG and DX programmes being most popular. The questionnaire was open to European listeners and the offer of prizes (which have always been good from this station) seemingly only available to DX-club members. A way to increase membership, no doubt.

gh: Schedules sent to North America contain only vague information about program content, but not so to Europe:

(via Brian Hemingway, Cranleigh, Surrey, Jan. WDXC Contact) Regular programs of Polish Radio European service: COMMENTARIES on current affairs at home and abroad, Weekdays 0630, 1830, 2030, 2230. PRESS REVIEW, 1200 & 1600 exc. Sundays. LETTER FROM POLAND, Weds 1600, 1830, 2230. PANORAMA--a half hour feature on current affairs, Tue & Thu 1600, 1830, 2230, repeated the following 0630 & 1200. WEEK IN POLAND--newsreel of events spanning the week gone by, Sats 2030, Suns 0630, 1600, 2230. SCIENCE MAGAZINE, every first Monday 1600, 1830, 2230, and following Saturday 0630. MARITIME MAGAZINE, every third Monday 1600, 1830, 2230, following Sat. 0630. CULTURAL MAGAZINE, every second and fourth Thursday 2030, following Sat. 1600, 1830, 2230. ANGLO-POLISH MAGAZINE, reports on Polish-British cooperation, every last Monday 1600, 1830, 2230. STAMP ALBUM, every first Wednesday 1600, 1830, 2230. POSTBAG, Fridays 1830 & 2230, Sats 1200, Suns 2030, Mons 0630. REQUEST CONCERTS, Suns 1200 & 1830, following Thurs 0630. Most programmes open with the NEWS BULLETINS.

(Edwin Southwell, WDXC editor) Polish Radio programmes are among the better ones from Eastern Europe. PANORAMA and A-P MAGAZINE are especially worth tuning in, the latter with much material not reported elsewhere in Britain. When giving COMMENTARIES on current affairs they tend not to impose their opinion on the listener, but to persuade in a factual discussion.

gh: Cf Jan. NASWA FRENDX LISTENERS NOTEBOOK, p. LN-2 for full frequency schedule, and note that Charles George in Dallas says the 0630 broadcast on 7270 and 9675 comes in better than the North American service. This may be a mid-winter phenomenon, however.

R H O D E S I A (Observer, Jan. 20, via Osterman) Lord Soames has been cocking an anxious ear to the Rhodesian radio, wondering if it will be even-handed in the impending elections. So Austen Kark, 53, controller of English services at Bush House, has made a discreet trip to Salisbury. "I

spent several days at the studios there and I have no doubt all sides will be given a fair crack," says Kark smoothly. A BBC world service bulletin is already being relayed on the Rhodesian general service at sundowner time.

S O U T H A F R I C A (Ken MacHarg, Jeffersonville IN) Although I was a participant, I agree that R. RSA's New Year's Eve program was a disappointment. The best part of the conversation with them was before I ever went on the air. I tried to compile some information for UPI about the number of callers, countries represented, etc. The conversation off-the-air was much more lively and interesting than that on the air. The multiple languages and long periods of music did cut down on interest. They are probably sensitive to people's phone bills, but then the caller can cut it short if he needs to. Next year I hope they extend the calls a bit longer, ask a bit more about the caller, interests, etc. But then, I think that SW talk shows could make a go of it on a regular basis, and I hate to be too critical. By the way, if anyone saw or heard the UPI story on the RSA call-in, I would like to know about it. UPI said they would use it.

S W I T Z E R L A N D (WDXC Dec. Express News Service) SWISS SHORTWAVE MERRY-GO-ROUND announced on Dec. 2 that they had received 60 letters as replies to their request, "Do you want music included in a DX program such as this?" Just three were for music, most said keep music out! Music can be heard elsewhere.

(Andrew Smith, Chandlers Ford, Hants., England) I agree with Chester Funnyé, Jan RIB with regard to his remark that DATELINE on SRI is a very boring format. I only listen to SRI on Saturdays and Sundays. When will SRI and RCI improve weekday programmes.

(Stefano Valianti, Bologna, Italy) More on the "R. 24" story in Jan. RIB: On Jan. 3, SRI announced in its daily current affairs programme in Italian, PANORAMA DEL GIORNO, that the following day at 1000 GMT the Italian Postal Police were to close down Radio 24, under pressure by the Swiss Government. The station has been broadcasting to Switzerland from the Italian province of Como since Nov. 28, 1979, and is run by Mr. Roger Schawinsky and 14 other people. 215,000 Swiss listeners have signed a protest against the threatened closure, and 400 of them staged a peaceful demonstration before the radio studios on the morning of Jan. 4. But the same day, SRI reported that the station had not actually been closed and was still broadcasting. Whether or not Radio 24 is finally forced off the air, it is interesting to note that Italy has been the target of commercial stations just outside its borders for many years. Such stations are R. Monte Carlo on 702, R. Capodistria on 1170 and 1080, R. Malta on 756, and TV stations in Monte Carlo, Capodistria and Switzerland itself. (all three have a network of private UHF relay transmitters to cover most of the Italian territory). But now that it is Italy's turn to broadcast across the Alps, Switzerland, France and the Principality of Monaco feel they must defend their own beloved native soil from the aggression. Italian authorities were also requested to close down French-language stations Radio Azur 102 and Radio Continental which broadcast to the French Riviera.

gh: I fail to see why there is any basic difference between broadcasting into a country on short-wave, which only totalitarian states object to, and broadcasting into a country on other radio bands.

T U R K E Y (Don Moore, Bellefonte PA) Voice of Turkey is a very good source of Mid East news. Especially good is LAST WEEK IN ANKARA, Fridays at 2210. Their Thursday DX program should be skipped as it is basically a showcase for disco programming with very little DX news, none of which is worth the time to listen to.

U G A N D A (Maxfield Greenwood, PA) In a recent broadcast an Ugandan government minister stated that while Uganda has received some aid from western industrial countries, it has amounted to naught but chickenfeed in relation to the cataclysmic problems facing his country in the wake of the 8 years of devastation perpetrated by the despot Idi amin. The minister went on to say that it has been stated to Ugandan authorities that the aid they want can't be had until they have become more stabilized; but, the minister protested, how can Uganda move to stability when they don't have monies for roads, trains, hospitals, schools, and police. Too much is being expected of them, he said, and then he gave a rather enigmatic veiled threat by saying, if the western countries don't want Uganda now, Uganda may not want them later!

He then stressed that the dream of Uganda is to become an independent sovereignty that is a true democratic state. They augmented this point with a commentary attacking the hypocrisy of South Korea, that they say only pretends to be a democratic state. They pointed out that democracy in name only, is no democracy at all. Pretty convincing stuff; and nice to hear. I only hope they are listening in Washington and catch on. This broadcast was heard Jan. 5, and I have not heard Radio Uganda since. We may have a shutdown here, at least on their beam to North America. Unfortunate; I really enjoyed this station. (Jan. 26)

(Bill Westimyn, Santa Barbara CA) I've got a new credit to Radio Uganda; on the 0300 GMT broadcast GMT Monday Dec. 10, the announcer of the news was constantly coughing over the air. I've heard their programs with just music and no announcer, but this is a new one?

(Joe Tangredi, Las Vegas NV) And it seems Uganda has permanently discontinued its English service to North America at 0300 on 15325; as of Jan. 22 I haven't heard it for about a month or more.

gh: Apparently the garbage-all-over-and-beyond-the-19m-band broadcast I reported last month, which was on GMT Jan. 6, may have been their 'last'. After that, it wouldn't suprrise me if the transmitter blew up, hi. Miki Včelar in South Africa reports some other R. Uganda external service also has been missing, so I suspect it's for technical problems; experience leads us to suspect nothing is forever with this station.

U K O G B A N I (Louis Goldstein, MA) A terrific addition to BBC is SMASH OF THE PAST, the best of BBC's old comedy shows, UTC Tues 1215, Thurs 0630, Fris 2030.

gh: SMASH OF THE DAY, per London Calling: MEN FROM THE MINISTRY week of Feb. 5; THE NAVY LARK, Feb. 12; ROUND THE HORNE, Feb. 19; HANCOCK'S HALF-HOUR, Feb. 26.

(Andrew Smith, Chandlers Ford, Hants.) The second series of the HITCHHIKER's GUIDE TO THE GALAXY has been broadcast on Radio 4UK, and will be repeated on BBC World Service on Mondays (exc. Mar. 31) at 1400, Weds 2030, Thurs 0330 according to London Calling. gh: First airing Thurs, Feb. 28, per LC.

(Joel Rubin, CA) London Calling readers are asked to keep a WS log GMT Feb. 23-29, by X-ing out the boxes provided on the 'Day to Day' pages, and to answer a few questions. Some of those participating in this survey will win BBC books.

The Magnum opus LAND AND PEOPLE, a social history of G.B., presented by Lord Briggs, begins Sat. Feb. 9 at 2045, repeated Mons 1000, Weds 1615. First program is on "Why History Matters"; Feb. 16, "Invasion, Conquest, Settlement and Resistance"; Feb. 23, "Order & Change in Medieval Society".

I notice THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER listed in January London Calling. Everytime I hear of this work, I am reminded of that famous review it got (either in Esquire or the New Yorker) from the late Dorothy Parker. Ms. Parker had a column called "Constant Reader". The last line in her review of this work was something like:

"And then, boys and girls, Thonstant Weader fwew up."

gh: Adding to the Feb. listings in Jan. RIB: THE MOUSE AND HIS CHILD, is a 6-part story reading starting Feb. 9, Sats 1345, Mons 2315, Tues 0730, Thurs 0945. By Russell Hoban, it's the story of the world of toys and animals, which is quite as delightful and frightening as our own.

An adaptation of Ann Brontës THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL (which NPR listeners have already heard in the US) begins Mar. 1 on BBC WS in the Sat 0230/Mon 1130/Thu1615 block replacing THE LADY OF THE CAMELLIAS.

(Syd Osterman, Ont.) Re Harold Sellers' Jan RIB p. 14 comment on RHC's use of Pres. 'James' Carter: I recall hearing BBCWS refer to 'Joseph' Clark on his election as Canada's Prime Minister. This formal mode of address was also generally followed by the UK newspapers. Obviously not another way of attacking Canada ! It seems rather far-fetched to interpret a well-mannered form of address as as a combative action !

(Chester Funnyé, Atlanta GA) I think the Alternative Programmes to Africa are very interesting and entertaining. I remember that once I wrote to the BBC asking why they had these programmes and not Alternatives for North America. They replied the coverage in the USA is better and there is no need for alternatives. Africa on the other hand, had poor communications and it was up to the BBC and others to keep the African people informed about their continent. I understand now.

(Our Political Staff, Daily Telegraph Jan. 24, via Osterman) Broadcasts to Russia Increased. The BBC European Service last night stepped up its broadcasts in Russian to the Soviet Union as a result of the international situation. The extra 15-minute broadcasts are being beamed to Russia at 6:45 p.m. and midnight Moscow time. This brings the total amount of Russian language broadcasting to five hours a day. Mr. Peter Fraenkel, Comptroller of the European Service said: "At times of international tension the Soviet public turns more than ever to foreign radio stations for news of what is happening in the world."

(Andrew Smith, Hants.) Press reports say the BBCWS is to step up its broadcasts to USSR and Afghanistan (I wonder why?!?!). These will be in English and Russian.

(Larry L. Ledlow, Columbia MD) The British government announced Jan. 24 their plans to cease high-level diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, refuse sale of so-called high-technology items, and increase broadcasts to the Soviet Union. Assuming a fixed fiscal-year budget, it would stand to reason that the BBC will shift resources from one broadcast service to another. Are we going to

see (or hear) a change in the English service? Other increases in Russian language broadcasts directed to the USSR are bound to be forthcoming. Subsequently, I'll bet jamming will no longer be a thing of the past, and the airwaves are going to be a mess within a year. Cold War politics will reign -- just you wait and see.

(Mike Burden, England) Radio Impact will make a special test broadcast to North America on Sunday Feb. 24 at 0600-0800 GMT on 7325. Reports should be sent to Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, .

U K R A I N E (Robert L. Hoffmann, II, nowhere near the Sinai) R. Kiev's DX program should be on hams! Their two best frequencies to North America, 7150 and 7215 are both squarely in the middle of the 40m hamband.

U S A (Broadcasting, via Bob Foxworth; remember, you read about it first in Jan. RIB !)

Still more radio?

Is domestic shortwave next frontier of American broadcasting? Joseph Costello, who owns five Louisiana radio stations—KKAY(AM) White Castle, KSMI(FM) Donaldsonville, KXOR(FM) Thibodeaux, and WGLA(AM)-WRNO(FM) New Orleans—seems to think so. FCC rules bar domestic shortwave operation, and Costello may in future seek rule change to lift that ban. But as he has things figured, that may not be absolutely necessary. He has applied to FCC for permit to build shortwave station in southern Louisiana to broadcast to Canada and western Europe. Unlike five private shortwave stations now operating in U.S., Costello's would broadcast entertainment—contemporary music—not religious programing and carry advertising of goods and services available in country being served. His signal would cover two-thirds of eastern U.S. on its way to Canada. Some 15 million Americans are believed to own shortwave receivers.

U.S. government officials privately have been discussing domestic shortwave as possible alternative in event U.S. loses one or more of its AM clear channels at upcoming meeting of western hemisphere nations on AM broadcasting. Coverage would be vast, day as well as night.

(Joel Rubin, Berkeley CA) Why not put WRNO's continental coverage on 60 meters? Why not expand the BCB to include 120m in Florida and the Gulf Coast? (Radios would be easy to construct, and ferrite antennas would work well). All of the above is permitted under ITU regulations. Stations on these bands could be limited to 10 kW and still probably be heard throughout North America at night. Certainly, we have more right to use the tropical band in New Orleans and St. Pete than the USSR does in Vladivostok!

(Robert L. Hoffmann II, New Hyde Park NY) Wunnerful! A rock station in New Orleans wants to go on SW! Isn't R. Nederland's DX JUKEBOX enough rock for one spectrum! North Americans are different--we don't blindly follow a trend!

Goof: Just now, Jan. 28 at 0200, AFRTS Parade of Sports (SEC basketball) and NPR ALL THINGS CONSIDDRED overrode each other, as I suppose the engineers forgot to kill the NPR feed. Question: is it yourstruly, or are AFRTS sportspeople George Balamaci, Del Burnett and Ken Allen really one and the same person? It sure sounds that way. (If so, we can see how cheap the Dept. of Defense really is.)

(Family Radio Newsletter, Jan-Jun 1980) WYFR begins its first year of exclusive operation from its new facilities in Okeechobee, Florida. Progress is being made, and today 5 transmitters and 9 antennas are in service beaming the Gospel in 7 languages to almost half the world. Plans for 1980 include work on at least one more transmitter, with five more antennas. Inauguration of an eastern Canadian service with 24 hour programming is also planned. Anyone in the US with a shortwave receiver will also be able to receive Family Radio programming through this service to Canada. A special high angle antenna is also being constructed for broadcast to Cuba. Language expansion is also a goal for 1980. An eighth language, Italian, is planned for early this year /sked for M80 at 1830-1900, cutting French to half an hour -gh/. Last November Family Radio signed a contract to purchase space on an RCA satellite. This will make Family's 24-hour programming available throughout the nation via cable services. The impact of this possibility is very great for the Gospel. gh: See p. 3

gh: In a separate letter, International Program Manager Thomas Schaff urges WYFR listeners to send in IRCs as contributions to the ministry of FR. What a ripoff! There are few things you can buy that immediately depreciate by more than 50%. At least HCJB realizes this and discourages them.

(Jeff White, 409 Laconia Lane, Schaumburg IL 60193) The VOA Latin American Division plans to begin a Spanish-language DX program soon, 3-5 minutes long, probably bi-weekly within the CLUB DE OYENTES program, also easily audible in the USA and other parts of the world, Suns 8:00 pm EST (Mon 0100 GMT) immediately following the news on 6190, 9670, 11895, 15400, 17780 and 1180 kHz mediumwave. The DX segment will start out as a basic course in DXing intended for those who know nothing about the hobby. Later there will be more feature material and interviews, questions from listeners, etc. This series will be prepared by Jeff White. Producer and host of the CLUB DE OYENTES is Juan Sagranichiny; his co-hostess is Beba Cardona. For more info about the DX segment, contact Jeff White.

(Ken MacHarg, Jeffersonville IN) How do you find out about VOA opportunities? I wrote a sesquiyear ago, and received a form letter about winter-intern programs and generalist programs, but nothing else. I suppose that's OK if you are just out of college or want to do something other than on-the-air from Washington, or writing/editing, etc. I notice that most of the listings you had were technical or management. Ever notice that VOA mailings have hand-written addresses? Don't care; odd.

gh: The job listings came from a RTTY transmission.

Stephen S. Rosenfeld **THE WASHINGTON POST, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1979**

On the Beam

(via Robert L. Foxworth, New York NY)

I've been browsing through a book-length government compilation of the broadcasts the Soviet Union has been beaming to Iran from its Baku-based clandestine "National Voice of Iran." For instance, last Dec. 14: "A torrent of blood is flowing in our homeland. They kill and kill indiscriminately; they kill on the shah's order and on Carter's order so that . . . the free plunder of oil may continue."

On Nov. 5: "The occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by struggling young people, regardless of its outward aspects, is in fact a decisive response to the overt and covert conspiracies of U.S. imperialism and to the U.S. government's hostile act of settling the deposed shah in the United States."

And so on. Shameless and filthy stuff, courtesy of Leonid Brezhnev.

The United States has done three things about the flow.

1) The State Department has protested. Close listeners have since detected a reduced content of outright anti-American falsehoods in the broadcasts of National Voice of Iran, which services the Moscow-controlled Iranian Communist Party, and in other Soviet broadcasts. For instance, the National Voice of Iran has suggested—though with no noticeable impact—that it's counterproductive to continue holding the hostages.

"The most intriguing American reaction to the Soviet broadcast is the new attention to reaching, by radio, the Soviet Union's own rapidly growing Moslem population."

2) The Voice of America, the United States' own official station, has, in the course of expanding its crisis broadcasting, taken to answering indirectly the kinds of charges made by Soviet radio. VOA does not want to give the Soviet broadcasts the status of a direct rebuttal, but it does seek to deal with the political reality—the intense suspicion of the United States—they help foster.

It is something of an unequal battle, at least in the short run. Moscow's radios, seeking tactical advantage, play deceitfully on deeply held rages and fears. The Voice of America, hoping for long-term credibility, scripts for a mythical rational man: acceptability in the continuing international marketplace of information and ideas is, to its credit, its goal. We no longer run—and, as far as I'm concerned, we don't need—the clandestine radios that would let us play Moscow's game.

Soviet programs have a further immediate advantage: broadcast from close by, they go into Iran on medium-wave signals easily caught by the transistor radios most people use. Since last month some American programs have been broadcast on a medium-wave transmitter on Rhodes, but most go on long-distance short-wave signals and are not well received. We're scavenging for medium-wave locations now.

3) The most intriguing American reaction to the Soviet broadcasts is the new attention to reaching, by radio, the Soviet Union's own rapidly growing Moslem population of 50 million. According to David Binder of The New York Times, President Carter has decided to increase broadcasts in seven languages by VOA and by Radio Liberty, a federally funded station that tries to serve as a surrogate free press for Soviet audiences.

Carter's new plan has an obvious Moslem angle. Islam is in these days. The explosion of Iran, culminating in the hostage crisis and its regional fallout, has created a market at the political level for Islamic matters that formerly flourished only at the specialists' level. The new radio programs directed at Moslems—mostly Moslems outside the Soviet Union—are one early result.

The Soviet angle is something else: the project of Zbigniew Brzezinski, the president's national security adviser. He has long felt that the Soviet Union, as a state made up of scores of more or less suppressed "nationality" or ethnic groups, is vulnerable over time to splitting tactics or, if you wish, to open, friendly, humane, legal and peaceable appeals to the ethnics' "human rights." The evident basis of the new broadcasting emphasis is to reach out to the Islamic side of Soviet Moslems, as distinguished from their Soviet side, to increase the cost to the Kremlin of keeping them in line, and to identify the United States as sympathetic to their (as to all Moslems') Islamic longings.

In brief, hardball but fair ball. The Kremlin, which often acts as though it had little faith in its ethnics' loyalty, will no doubt fume. But radio beams both ways. There is a certain nice justice at work here: Moscow's inflammatory use of radio in Iran helped Brzezinski lobby through a program that had previously been but a glint in his eye. I wasn't always ready for it, but I am now. I see nothing wrong with talking in a straight, accountable, publicly acknowledged voice to anyone who wants to listen.

(Beverly Slomka, Brooklyn NY) Jan. 24 at 11:30 pm on ABC-TV's late-night report on the Iran crisis there was a report on how the Voice of America was handling the crisis in Iran and the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. They reported that during recent days VOA has been reporting a great deal on the views of the United States and other nations on the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. They showed individuals reading the President's State of the Union Address in Russian and in Farsi, and reported how VOA had added four languages in reporting news to the world, two of which are Farsi and Urdu. In this way, they hope to reach the Islamic nations of the world. /gh: neither new/

(Ruth M. Hesch, White Plains NY) Jan. 19 at 1910 GMT I heard a VOA interview with the director of the West Africa Rice Development Association. He explained how the change in the population in various countries because of migration has altered diets so that rice is becoming the staple food of West Africa, displacing maize. After trying to grow more than 3000 varieties of rice (I did not know there are that many), 30 were selected and training is being given to technicians to teach farmers the best way to grow rice in their various localities. I do not expect to grow rice in the near or distant future, but this modification as a result of population changes is of interest to me.

(Chester Funnye, Atlanta GA) Does the VOA have a German broadcast? If not, I wonder why the VOA would ignore German speaking peoples, since they play an important part in the history of the world. Does the VOA issue upon request a program schedule to American listeners?

gh: No German is on VOA's formal sked, partly because they have their own station in Germany, RIAS. However, VOA-Washington does feed some German to it, reported by "SWLCS" in Jan. WWDXC DX Magazine as having been heard at 1930 on 20062 SSB. VOA pgm skeds sent on request to Ams; no mailing list.

(Joel Rubin, Berkeley CA) A prime-time commercial TV network fine arts series? It has been 25 years since Arturo Toscanini conducted the NBC Symphony from Studio 8-H at 30 Rockefeller Plaza (the RCA Bldg.) Appropriately, the first program of LIVE FROM STUDIO 8-H (Weds. 2130 ET/2030 CT/2130 PT= taped on NBC-TV) Jan. 9 was a salute to Toscanini. Zubin Mehta conducted the New York Philharmonic, with guest solosits Leontyne Price and Itzhak Perlman. N.B.: When Toscanini came to NY, he knew who was weak and needed extra work in the NBC Symphony--he had listened in Milan on shortwave!

gh: I think NBC plans to dare to do this only 4 times a year; I will endorse it only because it may bring classical music to some who would otherwise never experience it. Such concerts belong on PBS where viewers will not be burdened by capitalist exploitation.

(Richard Varron, Wayne NJ) Saturday nights at 7-8 pm, WBAI (99.5 FM New York) broadcasts ALTERNATING CURRENTS, a program on radio. If you cut through the Marxist-Leninist leaning, this program does cover some interesting topics in communications such as AM regulations, new technology, etc.

(Malcolm Kaufman, NY) Good to see that your WORLD OF RADIO has been picked up by area station WCWP. Unfortunately, mid-afternoon time slot is disadvantageous for most of us who work conventional hours.

gh: My feelings too, but at least it's on. Perhaps if James Mulvey at WCWP received enough requests for an evening or weekend slot, an improvement could be made.

U S S R (David K. Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) R. Moscow continues to be my favorite source of fairy stories; for example the recent one that Afghanistan's Amin was a CIA agent. They outdid themselves, however, the day after Carter's State of the Union message: law and order has been restored in Afghanistan; there was a big demonstration in Washington yesterday against U.S. violations of human rights; Carter's speech received unfavorable reaction in U.S.A. (Senators Hatfield and Stevens quoted out of context); it's a lie that war gases have been used in Afghanistan (USSR is against the use of such agents); etc. Incidentally, RM's occasional imitations of jazz and rock are some of the sickest music in the world. Why don't they stick to nice healthy revolutionary music? Is it because they are now an imperialistic nation?

(Arthur S. Getzel, Flushing NY) Well, the Soviet Union seems to be trying an interestingly new propaganda technique. Make believe that you are a station of another country to ferment political instability and revolution. That's exactly what the Bear did when it made believe that it was R. Afghanistan and an Iranian station. What neeeerve!!! Russia has reached the lowest of the low. And danger can arise from this technique. Imagine if a Nazi station had made believe it was the BBC and tried to demoralize the British during the Battle of Britain. Of course, it would never have worked but with these ignorant, backward people of the Middle East, it all seems so easy. The Soviets are turning their SW transmitters into dangerous instruments.

(Chester Funnyé, Atlanta GA) I have decided to ignore Radio Moscow. Treat it like it doesn't exist. I have steam coming out of my head each time I listen, and there is no reason to let the Commies get my blood pressure up. A boycott of the Olympic Games in Moscow would shut up the propaganda bigwigs and make the Russians steam. I am all for it.

(Jeff White, Schaumburg IL) I'm getting tired of hearing all of those wire service reports that R. Moscow World Service is 'hard to distinguish' from the BBC World Service. I've never had any trouble telling the two apart, and if the programming is indeed so similar that they can't be distinguished between, then who cares which one you're tuned to? Sounds to me as though Radio Moscow is finally learning that in order to get listeners they have to put on some decent programs. Of course, that doesn't make the BBC happy, because Moscow is competing for its audience. But some people are trying to blame Moscow for this, and Moscow is not to blame. The blame lies with the ignorance and stupidity of the governments of Western nations who refuse to allocate their stations enough money to provide better services than Radio Moscow provides. Maybe someday, when Moscow's World Service has more listeners than the BBC, Western governments will wake up and decide that shortwave radio is worth putting some money into.

(Maxfield Greenwood, PA) A pox on jammers, and a double pox on any and all nations that use them. I was settling down to listen to GALACTIC HITCHHIKER on 9745 and just about 1030 that hideous crackling rushing sound tore through the BBC signal. Checking WRTH, saw listing for RFE/RL. My uneducated guess is that this is indeed a jammer. I can only say that SWL has awakened me to this vile practice and it makes me furious that the UN or some other international body does not loudly and vehemently condemn this boorish and unforgivable attack on free process.

V A T I C A N (Don Moore, Bellefonte PA) Vatican Radio has a very interesting feature entitled CULTURE & RELIGION, on Thursday (GMT Friday) broadcasts. They do not limit themselves to Catholicism. On Jan. 25 they had a very interesting program on research into the Australian Aborigines. Also recommended is SUNDAY MEDITATION, a look into Biblical verses without the fire and brimstone

of the evangelical stations. Basically it is an intellectual look at the Bible from the Catholic point of view--and educational to the non-Catholic.

gh: Here are the topics on that program, CULTURE & RELIGION, for the five GMT Fridays of Feb! at 0100: 1, Monotheism or Polytheism? 8, Archaeology and the Origin of Religion. 15, Sumerians and Babylonians. 22, Hittites and Phrygians. 29, The Egyptians. Produced by C. Serei, SJ.

Running on GMT Sats during Feb is DOMINUS: 9, The Great Temptation. 16, A Catch of Fish. 23, The Synagogue Scroll. A few other Feb. highlights: Tue 12 FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA. That's about it.

X I Z A N G Jean-Jacques Bloch received this sked dated Nov 79 with QSL from PBS Lhasa, "Tibet":

西藏人民广播电台汉语节目时间表

（一九七九年十一月十二日起实行）

中波：594千周　　短波：4750　　5935　　7170千周

第 一 次 播 音

7,00 合唱《东方红》、预告节目
7,10 音　乐
7,25 天气预报
7,30 业余英语广播讲座
8,00 对人民解放军广播(日，音乐到8,30)
8,20 戏　曲（日除外）
8,30 播送中央人民广播电台新闻和报纸摘要节目的录音
9,00 新　闻
9,10 音　乐（日，文艺到13,00）
9,40 学习节目（日除外）
10,00 建设新西藏（一、三、五、六）学科学（二、四）
10,20 曲　艺（一、三、五）文学（二、四、六）
10,50 外汇牌价（日除外）
11,00 转播中央人民广播电台国际新闻（日除外）
11,15 广播体操（日除外）
11,25 每周一歌（日除外）
11,30 天气预报（日除外）
11,35 文　艺（日除外）
13,00 全区广播站联播节目
13,20 歌　曲
13,30 业余英语广播讲座
14,00 戏　曲
14,45 第一次播音结束

第 二 次 播 音

18,00 合唱《东方红》、预告节目
18,10 天气预报和天气形势预报
18,25 每周一歌
18,30 新　闻
18,40 西藏音乐
19,00 直播全区广播站联播节目
19,20 地方戏曲（日到20,00）
19,40 学习节目（日除外）
20,00 转播中央人民广播电台各地人民广播电台联播节目
20,30 转播中央人民广播电台文艺（六、日到23,00）
21,00 对人民解放军广播（六日除外）
21,20 歌　曲（六、日除外）
21,30 建设新西藏（一、三、五）学科学（二、四）
21,50 音　乐（六、日除外）
22,00 业余英语广播讲座(六、日除外)
22,30 新　闻（六、日除外）
22,40 文　学（一、三、五到23,40）外国音乐（二、四到23,40）
23,00 业余英语广播讲座（六、日）
23,30 音　乐（六、日）
23,40 天气预报
23,45 全天播音结束

说　明：表内"一、二三……日"，均为"星期一、星期二、星期三……星期日"

西藏人民广播电台藏语节目时间表

（一九七九年十一月十二日起实行）

中波：960千周　　短波：4035、5240、5995、9490、9680千周

第 一 次 播 音

7,00 合唱《东方红》、预告节目天气预报
7,10 音　乐
7,30 新　闻
7,40 歌　曲
7,50 科学常识
8,00 广播体操
8,10 学习节目
8,30 藏族音乐
9,00 全区广播站联播节目
9,20 音　乐
9,30 对农村牧区广播
9,50 歌　曲
10,00 社员学科学
10,10 电影歌曲（一、三、五、日、）国外音乐（二、四、六）
10,30 播送中央人民广播电台藏语节目的录音
11,30 每周一歌
11,35 天气预报
11,40 文艺（日到14:00）
12,00 昌都地方语广播（一至六）
12,30 兄弟民族音乐(一至六)
13,00 可爱的祖国（一、三、五）西藏新貌（二、四、六）
13,10 音　乐（一至六）
13,20 简明新闻（一至六）
13,30 文　艺（一、三、五、六）
文　学（二、四）
14,00 对流落国外的藏族同胞广播
14,45 第一次播音结束

第 二 次 播 音

18,00 合唱《东方红》、预告节目天气预报
18,10 新　闻
18,20 歌　曲
18,30 西藏新貌（一、三、五、日）
可爱的祖国（二、四、六）
18,40 音　乐
19,00 转播中央人民广播电台藏语节目
20,00 全区广播站联播节目
20,20 藏族音乐
20,40 科学常识
20,50 音　乐
21,00 对农村牧区广播（六，文艺到23,00）
21,20 歌　曲（六除外）
21,30 社员学科学（六除外）
21,40 兄弟民族音乐(六除外)
22,00 昌都地方语广播（六除外）
22,30 藏族音乐（六除外）
22,50 简明新闻（六除外）
23,00 对流落国外的藏族同胞广播
23,45 全天播音结束。

Y U G O S L A V I A (Zdenek Elias, Czechoslovakia, Jan WDXC Contact) Radio Yugoslavia since Jan. 1 is using a new interval signal and signature tune.

(David Maxfield, Ann Arbor MI) If Bulgaria and Turkey can come through clearly, why not Titoland? I can often catch the "Internationale" ID, but all programming is unhearable because of QRM. Is it being jammed? Who is doing it? Albania? Bulgaria? Russia?

gh: I haven't heard either RY or possible jamming of it for a long time. Unlike the other countries named, Yugoslavia does not have any antennas designed to reach North America. If and when their big expansion project ever gets off the ground, presumably they will then do much better.

A F R I C A N S E R V I C E S (Philip Sauerlender, Alexandria VA) At noon EST, about 1700 GMT, it's fascinating to listen to broadcasts from Europe to Africans eating their suppers. Radio France International, BBC, VOA, Vatican, and Deutsche Welle have interesting programs. Surprisingly, I have not seen a listing of DW's 1715 broadcast at 21600 kHz. I have stumbled upon R. Moscow's African Service on 12000 khz ending at 2100 GMT. It is certainly a different viewpoint than their North American Service. Perhaps some reader has compiled a list of the different services broadcast by R. Moscow which are audible in the US.

gh: The African and the GB & Ireland are the only ones left besides NAm, as most were consolidated into the "World" Service.

THE WORLD IN MY EARS (Ken MacHarg, IN) Those who haven't yet been able to get ahold of Arthur Cushen's book should do so. Beyond doubt it's the most entertaining book about SWL I have read. The average book is technical, following the same pattern with the same material. Cushen begins with a personal recollection of his involvement in conveying word about POWs to families, along with the development of radio listening, equipment, facilities, and hobbies. Only in the second part of the book does he turn to 'how-to', and this is less technical than others, an ideal gift for the beginner with no technical background. About the only drawback for the North American reader is that it is oriented for the listener in New Zealand and the South Pacific, and thus omits some listings of use in North America. And, as with any publication, things change and some items are outdated. But these are not criticisms, just factors. The book also contains a variety of pictures which greatly enhance the text. The book is available from GILFER.

DON'T YOU BELIEVE...

...that Radio Japan's regional service to Europe at 0630-0830 on 13 and 16m is via Portugal, as Rita somebody was quoted on BRT DX Nov. 25; these transmissions are direct (gh)

...that Radiobrás' North American transmission is still at 0200 on 15280 as their new female announcer said Nov. 26 after 0300 on 15290(gh)

...that there's a "New Guinea Broadcasting Co." as David Hascall was quoted by Mark Lucas on the Miami Valley DX report on DX PARTY LINE Nov. 26; or that /kam-PAY-sha/ was heard in a broadcast in a language called "Thailand" at 1230 on 9694 as Terry L. Krueger was quoted. It's Kampuchea, in Thai (gh)

...that the international postal body is the IPU rather than the UPU (Universal Postal Union--I know, that's a bit grandiose...) or that Derby, England is pronounced /DUR-bee/ rather than /DAR-bih/, as on DX PARTY LINE Nov. 29 (gh)

...that AF Radio Antarctica is on 6035, or that WRUL was WYUL, as per Roberto Levinstein, RN Portuguese DX program Nov. 29; AFAN 6012 (gh)

...that EDXC stands for European DX Club rather than Council, as on R. Portugal's Dec. 1 DX (gh)

...that Göteborg, Sweden is pronounced /GOE-tuh-burg/ as Bob Hardy said it, twice on RCI European mailbag, Dec. 9 at 1917. He sure has trouble with those Swedish Gs, but if he doesn't (g read RIB, what can I do? It's /YEU-teh-bor'y/ h)

...that LETTER FROM AMERICA is only heard in 52 countries not including the USA, as Dick Cavett introduced Alistair Cooke on PBS-TV Dec. 15 (gh)

...that R. Free Grenada is heard well in Europe at 2100-2130 on 15105 in Spanish as on R. Moscow DX Dec. 16 (gh)

...that "Ceylon" isn't a bit obsolete as Pieter Martins referred to Sri Lanka on R. RSA DX CORNER Dec. 16 (gh)

...that R. Noticias del Continente is heard on 9490 at 0330, as John Turner, Daly City CA, was quoted on REE DX 16/12, SFR DX 17/12; or that the Guatemalan on 3300 is R. Cultura; it's Cultural, and RNC had not been on 9490 for months

...that BBC has a DX program Mondays at (gh)
1145, as DX Team Berlin was quoted as reporting on R. Sofia DX program Dec. 16 (gh)

...the sign-off cart played by the CBC NS at 0359 GMT Dec. 17, tho they might as well have with the BBC QRM on 6195 (gh)

...these 'M'ispronunciations on DX PARTY LINE Jan. 1: muss-KO-jee instead of muss-KO-ghee, Oklahoma; Angolan Moxico not pronounced as /moh-SHEE-ku/ as I've pointed out before; nor Moçamedes, which came out moh-ka-MEH-des. (gh)

...that R. RSA was on "15520" as announced once on their New Year Eve special; 15220 (gh)

...that Liberia is on the east coast of Africa, as Morley Safer said on SIXTY MINUTES Jan. 6, tho this was corrected following week; or that the USSR has (only) 8 time zones, as per Reasoner, same program (gh)

...that Idaho, Colorado and Oregon have a common border, as Leonard Nimoy said on the IN SEARCH OF program on the stock certificate, carried on WJHL Jan. 6 (gh)

...that KUOM is a PBS station, as Ian McFarland referred to it, twice, on DX DIGEST Jan. 20; PBS is a TV network; NPR=National Public Radio is the corresponding radio network; but the program referred to was not a network program anyway(gh)

...Pieter Martins' sexist "88s to all the XYLs" closing his Feb. 3 R. RSA DX CORNER; what about all the plain old YLs out there?! Tho I'm not sure the concept of sexism has reached RSA (gh)

...that Radio Nederland's announcers go strictly by the cue cards. On Thursday Jan. 10 0230 program, David Green said "This is the Dutch World Broadcasting Service, Radio Nederland--as if you didn't know!" (Robert L. Hoffmann II, NY)

...there's any such facility as "NY International Airport" as claimed by R. Prague Jan. 12. I presume they were referring to Kennedy Airport, where workers are refusing to service Russian planes (Robert L. Hoffman II, NY)

...Ian Doidge in Dec. RIB that Montreal is north of the 49th parallel--it's at 45½ (Joel Rubin)

...that the reader on BBC THE WORLD TODAY Dec. 29 should have said that Iran and Afghanistan 'share a common border'--what other kind of border can two nations share? (this error is called 'tautology' or 'repetitiveness')(I only hold the BBC to such standards of language--I certainly don't claim my English is that good!)(Joel Rubin, CA)

...that VOA is run by USIA as in comment by gh in RIB-35 p. 27. It's part of the International Communication Agency (Ken MacHarg, Jeff. IN)

...that there are no MW stations in Brazil tho none appear in the ITU list (Gerhard Berggren, Sweden, SCDX Nov. 27)

...that Budapest frequencies include 8835 and 9858 at 0300, as in its Jan. schedule; 9835 and 9585 would be more like it (gh)

...that the BBC cut figure was 2700 million pounds as ADXL quoted R. Sweden news Nov. 2 (gh)

...that RCI could be heard from Montreal in Russian at 0223, as E.P. Povrženić reported in ADXL, on 7285. RCI isn't (yet) using the 41m band for transmissions from Canada, and Russian on this frequency isn't until 0315-0345, from Sines (gh)

...that Family Radio purchased WYFR from CBS as in Religious Broadcasting magazine, Dec. 1979. It looks like they took the FR press release, half read it, and then wrote it up from memory a month later (Ken MacHarg, Jeffersonville IN)

...reports in various DX bulletins of Mauritius heard on 4850 around 1730, 1839; it's definitely Yaoundé here, nothing else (Gordon Darling, WDXC)

...that Joe Adamov was at ANARCON 79, as an ANARCON 80 Sept. 79 press release claim via WDXC (gh)

...that WWV is near Washington DC as per RMWS DX Dec. 22; they were in 1923, but not since 1966--Fort Collins CO. How else is RMWS behind?(Munster, GA)

THE SKYWAVE BULLETIN

by Gordon L. Byrd

It's February, and I have a gem of an opening--for a January column. Sorry about the absence of this section last month; seems it was a bit too "spaced out" for publication, and besides, it was somewhat outdated in its non-coverage of a couple of important items. We gotta lotta STUFF to tend to, so we'll skip directionally to same. All times ELT.

(C U B A), long a broadcaster in English to the world through Radio Habana Cuba on shortwave, has introduced English-language programming to its mediumwave outlet on 600 kHz (CMKV, Holguín) directed to listeners in North America and the Caribbean. The programs were first heard here on the morning of January 24, and carry the umbrella title "The Voice of Cuba." Covering the timeslot from midnight to 6 a.m., the format is similar to the Spanish-language "La Voz de Cuba," with programs of Cuban music, news and commentary, and plenty of Latin-American news with a revolutionary slant. Opening is usually "TODAY IN HISTORY," which features some revolution or uprising or birth or death of a revolutionary which took place on the day in question. This is followed by the INTERNATIONAL NEWS and COMMENTARY, SPOTLIGHT ON LATIN AMERICA, and interspersed with Cuban music and announcements of RHC's current contest.

WFAA 570 DALLAS/FORT WORTH: If you can hear them (their signal pattern covers mainly Oklahoma and Texas), you have a good source for network and syndicated radio drama. WFAA carries ALIEN WORLDS and CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER, not only on a Monday-Friday basis but repeating the week's five episodes on Sunday mornings from 12:05 to 5 a.m. under the MYSTERY THEATER FESTIVAL title. Here are times for some WFAA programs, sked dated 26 November 1979:
MON-FRI: 7:05 p.m. SPORTSTALK, 8:00 NEWS/WEATHER/SPORTS, 8:30 ALIEN WORLDS (every night??), 10:05 GOOD TIMES HOUR with LUM & ABNER, 11:00 as 8:00, 11:30 CBSRMT, 12:30 BROADWAY AND HOLLYWOOD SPECIALS, 1:05 a.m. SONDRA SENNESS
SAT: 6:05 DR. HI-FI 8:05 p.m. HOTLINE with TIM JERNIGAN 12:05 a.m. CBS MYSTERY THEATER FESTIVAL

WOWO 1190 FORT WAYNE: It was a sad event for many mediumwave listeners when Ron Gregory moved out of his longtime roost in the nighttime spot at WOWO, which he had owned since 1973. During the week of January 7-11, we said goodbye to the HOLLYWEIRD REPORT with Rick Marr, after 315 airings, as well as the SPORTS TALK call-in shows with Art Saltzberg on Monday & Thursday nites.

THE HOLLYWEIRD REPORT began in 1976 after a junket by Ron Gregory to Tinseltown. For the first two years the show aired Mondays and Thursdays at 9:15 p.m. EST. In late 1978, the show was cut back to once a week on Mondays and was often preempted for important programs such as Fort Wayne Komets hockey.

BCB BITS: KDWN 720 LAS VEGAS now airs CBSRMT at 3 a.m. WHAS 840 LOUISVILLE has moved CBSRMT to 9:07 p.m. weeknights, except when sports or other specials pre-empt. This is the spot being vacated by the departing SEARS RADIO THEATER. On October 31, WHAS produced its own version of Dracula, the first locally produced radio drama in Louisville in decades, according to Ken MacHarg. And KTWO did a special broadcast to mark its 50th anniversary last Jan. 2...John Landecker's wacky "newscasts" on WLS have moved with him to the afternoon spot, and can be heard some weeknights before 7 p.m. Now they bear the title of "CAN I GET A WITNESS NEWS"...KAAY's unusual talk show has settled down a bit. It now has an official name--THE SINGING PIG...WBT's HELLO HENRY talk show now airs Sundays from 10 p.m.-1 a.m. as well as Mondays-Fridays...KMOX 1120 now has a number for recorded program info. By calling (314) 739-1120, you can hear a 30-second recording with that evening's program lineup...WRVA's "Big John" Trimble had his trucker show featured on CBS SUNDAY MORNING Jan. 20...KSL 1160 has shuffled programming somewhat, according to Robert C. Yentema. BOB LEE now airs 12:37-2 a.m. Tue-Sat. At 2:07 a.m. Galen Rowan's GOLDEN OLDIES show takes over. Mondays at 2:07 you can hear Chuck Cecil's BIG BAND ERA show... The Feb. price increases have gone into effect for THE SKYWAVE BULLETIN, but RIBbers can still subscribe at the old rates till Mar 1...$4 for 13 wks., $7.50 for 26, made out to Gordon Byrd Jr., 1410 W. Sligh Ave., Tampa FL 33604. Until next time, be nice to your BCB!

gh: Ronald F. Schatz, our Cuba-watcher says there have been many frequency/transmitter changes in the past month, and 600 may not be where the lists show. Another place to hear the monthly CBS documentary NEWSMARK is WCCO-830, noted here on the last Sat. of January at 8:30 pm EST.

I have decided to drop the CBS MYSTERY THEATRE listings in RIB, unless something really special is notified in time, since it is space-consuming, quickly dated, and now always available thru Gordon's weekly SKYWAVE BULLETIN for those who really need the information.

WQXR 1560 NEW YORK. Here is the latest program schedule of America's leading full-time AM classical station (is that really saying much?) according to Robert Sherman, program director:

MONDAY-FRIDAY:	MON.-FRI. C'T'D:	SATURDAY:
6 p.m. EARLY EVENING NEWS (including METROPOLITAN REPORT, BUSINESS AND MARKET REPORT, WORLD OF DANCE, POINT OF VIEW AND WEATHER.)	Wed.: YOUNG ARTISTS' SHOWCASE	6 p.m. EARLY EVENING NEWS
	Thu: KING KAROL SHOWCASE	6:05 DINNER MUSIC
	Fri: CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA	6:30 MUSIC FROM GERMANY
		7:05 WOODY'S CHILDREN
	10:05 Tue.	8:05 FIRST HEARING
6:30 JUST MUSIC	Tue: CLASSICAL BEST SELLERS	9:05 PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA
7:05 COMMAND PERFORMANCE	Wed: IBM SALUTE TO THE ARTS	11:00 DATSUN CAMPUS BEAT
8:05 SYMPHONY HALL	Thu: VOCAL SCENE	1 a.m. SIGNOFF
9:00 FRONT PAGE OF TOMORROW'S N.Y. TIMES	11:00 WASHINGTON REPORT	SUNDAY:
		6 p.m. AS SATURDAY
9:05 Mon.	11:05 CHAMBER CONCERT	6:30 VOYAGE WITH JHO ARCHER
MONDAY: BOSTON SYMPHONY	12:05 CASPER CITRON	7:05 COMMAND PERFORMANCE
TUESDAY: BEST OF BBC	INTERVIEWS	8:05 DELTA OPERA HOUSE
(News is carried in the hours with pgms. starting 5 mins. late)	12:35 NIGHTCAP	11:00 MUSIC OF THE THEATRE
	1 a.m. SIGNOFF	12:05 CHAMBER CONCERT
		1 a.m. SIGNOFF

Want to learn how to winterize your car or fix a Thanksgiving feast of turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie — in Vietnamese?

If you happen to speak Vietnamese or Tai Dam, you can learn all that and more by listening to WHO radio Sunday between 8:30 and 9 p.m.

The show, half in Vietnamese and half in the Laotian language Tai Dam, is produced by the Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny and the Iowa Refugee Service Center in Des Moines.

WHO donates time for the show which program director Bob Gifford calls a "public service to a growing number of people."

"We plan on continuing it indefinitely," he said.

Gifford said the time and day for the show, which started in July 1976, were picked to reach the most people.

"We wanted to do it at night so we could take advantage of our clear channel," he said, adding that WHO is heard nightly in 45 states. "We assume our audience for this show is quite large."

"As far as I know, this kind of radio program, which is a combination of news and music, is one of the few of its kind in the whole country," said Gifford.

Willis Dobbins, coordinator of the show and an employee of the Adult Education Center of DMACC, said it is hard to estimate the size of the show's audience largely because refugees seldom call or write in response to it.

But, Dobbins said, he and others connected with the show have received letters from refugees as far away as Colorado and Virginia.

One of the show's hosts, Houng Baccam, 39, of 1524 Sampson St., takes pleasure in the "great service that we are doing for our people. We are very proud of the show."

Cuong Nguyen Phu, 22, of Ankeny is the Vietnamese host.

Baccam, host of the Tai Dam segment, clips newspapers, news magazines and other materials looking for stories "about our homeland" — Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

The hosts translate their material on Thursdays and tape the show on Friday afternoons.

Baccam said he asks friends for records to play on the show and occasionally a guest will sing folk songs at the taping. And refugees often call him with news of weddings, funerals, births and other social news of local refugees.

"They get very excited about having news of their wedding broadcast on our show," said Baccam. "It is a way of letting others in the community know what is going on."

The show also deals with many things Americans take for granted — topics like Halloween, Thanksgiving, how to winterize cars, what kind of clothing to buy for winter and an explanation of municipal elections.

"These people do not understand things like why American kids dress up in costumes for Halloween, or why we have Thanksgiving, or how elections work in America," said Dobbins.

"This show helps them feel comfortable in this country, and also gives them a touch of home through their native music."

Nguyen Phu, who replaced the former Vietnamese host last September, said he has learned to be a better announcer and also "to gather news efficiently."

Bill Johnson, director of Adult Basic Education at the college, said agencies with information for refugees are encouraged to give it to him or Dobbins.

Importance growing

Recently, the Iowa Conservation Commission, worried about the refugees' knowledge of fish and game laws, sent a news release explaining those laws.

"The program is becoming more and more important and more as more refugees arrive here," Johnson said. "We want to continue to be a service to the people, and make them feel at home in our country."

Johnson said there has been some negative reaction from people who "want to know what this program is doing on the air."

But he said most Iowans support the show. "They say, 'How would you feel if you were in a strange country and didn't know what was going on?'" he said. "They know how frightening it can be."

WHO puts Viet tongue on the air....via Stephen J. McIntire

(from NRC DX News, Dec. 17)

BAHAMAS (Tom Powers, Baxley GA) R. Bahamas, ZNS-1 in Nassau is an easy DX catch for anyone living or vacationing in the south Florida area. With 20 kW 24 hours daily, they get out quite well to the Florida coast and can usually be heard on any ordinary AM radio. Noted on Dec. 25 around sunset with Christmas music interspersed with commercial messages in English, then EVENING REPORT at 6:30 EST.

gh: Also check for Freeport on 810, easier.

MAINE (Kenneth Clark, Knoxville TN) There's a small 5-kW station in northern Maine called WEGP-1390 which has a very funny talk show--I mean the questions and host are stupid! The host's name is Dewey Dimmit, a.k.a. "Dimwit" by his listeners. It really wasn't his fault for giving foolish answers because he got foolish questions, like why isn't there a law prohibiting Canadians from buying cheaper gas in Maine (as of 1977). He once asked for a 'smart' discussion but suggestions for topics were half-cocked. A real winner of a talk show! I hope it's off the air by now.

MISSOURI (Charles George, Dallas TX) I have noticed that KMBZ-980 has gone jazz on their late night shift, from Kansas City. They have a good balance of different types of jazz Monday-Friday.

NEW YORK (Joel Rubin, NY) WNYC-830 (city owned) carries ALL THINGS CONSIDERED at 1700 ET, old time radio at 1830 M-F. Also some classical music (but more on FM), and THE JOHN HOUR, a list of males arrested with prostitutes (sounds boring, unless you know one or are thinking of going into the blackmail business, hi). You can only hear Mayor LaGuardia reading the comics under very unusual propagation conditions. Occasionally public hearings and such are carried, but with the city budget cuts, it seems to be easier to get private donors for fine arts than public affairs. This station is on until 0300 GMT both during EST and EDT periods. For as long as I can remember (at least 15 years), post-daytime operation has been under a 'temporary permit' to the discomfort of WCCO. So, you see, the clear channel controversy has two sides!

CALIFORNIA (Joel Rubin, CA) Religious station KFIA in Roseville (metro Sacramento) is carrying a Russian Baptist program at 2130 PT Sundays. There have been some spectacular instances of Russian Baptist refuseniks, including about two families who have been and are holed up in the American embassy in Moscow for two years, but are there enough of them in Metro Sacto for their own radio program--or are they trying to convert the Russian Orthodox, et al.?

GH'S DX NEWS FOR RCI DX DIGEST

(Jan. 20 1800+, 1900+, 21 0300+) New Hebrides has a new schedule on 7260, and it's been heard from Australia to Great Britain, so it should be audible in between, in North America as well, between 0700 and 0900 GMT, per Mike Willis and Bob Padula in Australia; Gordon Darling in England heard Vila going from French into Pidgin around 0815. Joël Rubin in California and Leslie Byron in New York say BRT Belgium dropped 11700 kHz January 14th, to North America in English at 0015; now 15175 only is for both South and North America. And the latest frequency for BRT's only other English broadcast, at 1705-1750 to Africa, is 17730. William Krause in Minnesota reports good reception from Radio Korea in English at 0400 on 15570, better than the parallel frequencies for North America. The American prime time service from the Voice of Israel is still scheduled to start Thursday evening January 31st, but with a few changes from my last report--Yiddish is at 2300, Spanish at 2330, Hebrew at 0030, Portuguese at 0130. English at midnight, 0100 and 0200, all on 7412, 9815 and 11637. Spanish at 0230 replaces 11637 with 9435. Russian at 0300 is on 7412 to North America. More Hebrew at 0400 on 7412 and 9815, continuing past 0500 on 7412, but on 9815 English at that hour. 11620 is the South American frequency at 2200-2325. Kevin L. Meyer in Peru says the studios of Radio Tropical, Tarapoto, were destroyed by fire January 6th but they planned to be back on shortwave by January 25th, presumably 4935. I've heard a Peruvian on 10011 kHz, at 1200 GMT January 17th, probably the 2nd harmonic of Radio Jaen. After two months of co-channel interference with VOA, Radio RSA, South Africa has finally moved from 17780 to 17770 at 0200. Syd Osterman in Ontario reports Mongolia's English program at 1220 on 12068, while the Soviet Mayak program was on 12070.

(Jan. 21 0100+, 23 2130+) Thanks to a tip from Derek Lowe, I heard two pirates January 14th on 6965 kHz, WARG, "somewhere on the east coast" giving a phone number for requests, and in contact with "WONS" (that's SNOW spelled backwards), "somewhere in the midwest" from 0415 past 0500. WARG said he would be back on the following weekend. Jack Lattemann in Seattle says pirate "KVHF" was active January 6th at 0815 on 6419.1, drifting down half a kHz by 0945 and still going past 1000 GMT. It had not been heard since July. Terry L. Krueger in Florida heard clandestine Radio Libertad Cubana January 12th at 0200-0225 with Comandante David on 7091. C.M. Stanbury in Ontario reports a Mexican harmonic on 1720 kHz, XEZX, until sign off at 0158; but a correspondent in Texas hears another harmonic on the same frequency, XENL. Another station heard in Texas is on 1668, perhaps the second harmonic of Belize, 834. And by the way, Lance Sang reports in NRC DX News that Belize is phasing out mediumwave in favor of an FM network. In the Skywave Bulletin, Gordon Byrd says KMOX St. Louis now has a phone number for advance evening program information. You can hear their tape lasting less than a minute by calling 314 739 11 20. Arthur Cushen in New Zealand says FEBC Philippines has again changed the frequency for English at 0800-1000, from 11765 to 11890. The propagation outlook: Solar activity is expected to remain low to moderate until early February. The geomagnetic field should continue quiet to unsettled. For more detailed short-term propagation information, monitor WWV at 18 past each hour, or WWVH at 45 past the hour.

(Jan. 27 1800+, 1900+, 28 0300+) George Poppin in California reports Radio Singapore on a new frequency which seems to have replaced 5010--it's 4780, in parallel with 5052, January 19th and 20th around 1530. More on Turkey's new English schedule which I first reported a month ago: Rolf Gunnar in Colorado says the 1200 GMT hour is now designated to North America among other targets, on 11800 followed by Turkish to 1500 on that frequency. It's also on 17820 to Australia, and that's the frequency for a new English hour at1330 to Southeast Asia. This is another active week for the Red Cross Broadcasting Service from Switzerland--non-directionally for an hour Monday & Wednesday at 0600, 1130 and 1700 on 7210. Directionally at 0945-1015, Tuesday on 9560, 15305, 21520 and 21695; Thursday on 15430, 17830, 21520 and 21630, at the same time. A reminder to check for Voice of Israel's new prime-time service for the Americas beginning at 2300 GMT January 31st. Despite the fire I reported last week at Radio Tropical, Stu Klein in Florida says he heard a Peruvian on 4935 January 12th at 0950; and another definite Peruvian, but not one of the stations listed, was heard on 5035, opening at 1007, saying it's in the capital of San Martín province, which is Moyobamba,* where no stations are listed. BBC Monitoring Service says VOA has expanded its broadcasts in Persian, now for a half hour at 0230, 0300, 1830 and 1915 GMT. Syd Osterman in Toronto reports hearing Mongolia announce that its 1220 English broadcast on 12070 (actually heard on 12068) is not only off the air on Sundays, but also on Mondays. Gerry Bishop in Pennsylvania says reception was best on a Saturday morning, when it seemed to be on 12070. Maxfield Greenwood in Pennsylvania reports El Espectador, Uruguay, best at 0920-0950 on 11835. *see bottom of next page

(Jan. 28 0100, 30 2130+ (part)) The 100-watt Canadian station CFVP Calgary, is being reported in the mornings before and after AFRTS is on 6030 at 0900-1200. Bob Rankin in Kansas hears it at 0800 and Paul Kowalsky in Milwaukee says the best time to try is at 1200 past 1300 GMT Bob Rankin also reports Deutschlandfunk, West Germany heard on a USB feeder in Slovak at 0530, Polish at 0600, on

6975. News of North American pirates: David Woodward in Washington DC, Scott McClellan in Michigan, and John Fisher in Massachusetts report hearing Radio Confusion International at the scheduled time I gave 2 weeks ago, January 20th at 0000-0245 on 7363, with pop music and a mock gospel program Scott McClellan also heard two stations around 7360--Voice of the Purple Pumpkin, January 19th at 1602; and Radio Jolly Roger, January 20th at 0500 "from the great northeast". Voice of Revolutionary Binco told me they would broadcast on a Friday at 0545-0600 GMT, on 7420, but they didn't seem to know whether this was really Saturday by GMT. Radio Indiana informs me they will test on 4004 kHz at 0530 GMT Sunday, February 3rd, with 215 watts, a new location, and new management. The next broadcast of the Christian pirate, Voice of Togetherness, WVOT, is scheduled Saturday February 2nd at 2000 GMT on 28640. Two special National Radio Club mediumwave DX tests are scheduled for Monday morning January 28th--at 0800-0830 GMT, KUEN, 900, Wenatchee, Washington; at 1200-1300 GMT, KVEL, 920, Vernal, Utah. The Larry King Show on Mutual Radio in the US is celebrating its second anniversary this Wednesday night; and Sam Levinson is the guest Tuesday night. The propagation outlook: Solar activity is expected to be low to moderate but with a sharp increase to moderate-to-high levels in late January or early February. The geomagnetic field will be quiet to unsettled. However, George Jacobs of Mail-a-Prop is predicting storminess to continue thru Tuesday.

(Feb. 3 1800+, 1900+, 4 0300+) When I visited Radio Habana December 27th, I asked them why they didn't broadcast in English on mediumwave. A month later they started doing it. I made this recording at 0500 GMT: "This is the Voice of Cuba, broadcasting from Cuba, Free Territory in the Americas. We begin our English-language broadcast for North America and the Caribbean on 600 kHz, from zero hours to 6 a.m. Habana time. On this program you can hear news, commentaries, music and special features for your information and enjoyment." (chime interval signal). Kevin Mikell in Illinois has received what may be the first Radio Moscow QSL specifying Habana as the site, on 11860. On Sweden Calling DXers, Neil Clarke in Britain reports hearing the clandestine Free National Voice of Afghanistan, December 31st at 1745 on 16745 with battle reports; and January 14th at 1100 around 16520, possibly a different pro-rebel station, with a 10-minute English broadcast. I cannot confirm this report... In New Zealand DX Times, Peter Jones reports excellent reception December 30th only from Radio Dubai, testing in French at 0819 on 21480. BBC Monitoring Service reports this schedule for Radio Zínica, Nicaragua, on 6120: 1100-2400 GMT, except Sundays to 2300, and in Spanish; except in Miskito daily at 1330-1345 and Fridays 2030-2100; in English daily at 1600-1630 and 2200-2300. A schedule BBCMS received from Libya shows that 11690 and 6185 are beamed to North and Central America at 2200-0100. Don Moore in Pennsylvania says Ecuador's Escuelas Radiofónicas Populares, Riobamba, will soon start transmissions on 5015 kHz. Syd Osterman says he misunderstood Mongolia: they do broadcast on Mondays.

(Feb. 4 0100+, 6 2130+) This time it came true! GMT February first, Kol Israel began its prime-time service to North America, as this announcement from Ben Dalfen confirms: "You are tuned to Israel Radio, Kol Yisrael, broadcasting from Jerusalem. We are broadcasting to North America on frequencies of 11637, 9815 and 7412 kHz at 2400 hours, 0100 hours, and 0200 hours Greenwich Mean Time." However, inaugural remarks from Israeli officials indicated they are mainly interested in broadcasting to Jews, not Gentiles. A few days earlier, Kol Israel moved its 29 MHz band transmitter to the even stranger frequency of 27790, at 1400 GMT, because of interference problems--but now they're in the middle of the illegal CB band. Ralf Munster in Georgia reports that HCJB has been blocking Israel at 0500 on 15105. Wolfgang Büschel in West Germany quotes HCJB in the DX Magazine that Voice of Malaysia will commission two 500-kilowatt transmitters in April, on 11900 and 15295, and for a new European service, on 17725. Wolfgang also reports that TWR Monte Carlo is now on out-of-band 9485, going from Hungarian to Serbo-Croatian at 1712. Joe Tangredi in Nevada says Brazil's Amazonian service on 11780 is now heard better on new 15445 at 0000-0300; while the English transmissions are only 50 minutes now and John Morris seems to have left. Radio Sweden informs me there will be no changes in frequencies to North America as of March, but as of April 6th, the 0030 GMT broadcast will be dropped, so Portuguese, also at that time, can have both transmitters. A special mediumwave DX test for the National Radio Club is scheduled Monday morning, February 4th, from KGOE 850, Thousand Oaks, California at 0800-1000 GMT. The propagation outlook: solar activity is expected to increase, with more M- and possibly X-class flares, peaking between February 6th and 12th. The geomagnetic field will continue quiet to unsettled; flare-induced distrubances are likely after February 7th./*Stu Klein IDed his Peruvian on 5035 Feb. 4 at 1027 as R. Imasi (sp?), Tarapoto OCX9[illegible] or OCY9[illegible]

DX PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH UPDATE to January RIB. Since Israel's prime-time service has begun, add in the extra airings of its DX program Mons 0025-0030, 0125-0130, 0225-0230 on 7412 9815 11637; however, some transmissions are truncated for antenna switching and I hope it isn't the DX Corner that gets cut off. Sun 2137 & Mon 0437 Bulgaria repeats appear dropped. Wolfgang Büschel says: Turkey in 1330 17820 xmsn Mon & Sat; fqs at 1210 are 11800 17820 Mon/Thu/Sat. Thu 2045 11955 not 11880. Sat 0845 TWR 9620 not 9495. Sat 1720 DW 7160 not 21620 9590. Sun 1850 Japan 11950. Sun 2245 & Mon 0040 BRT 15175 only. Tue 1615 Sweden 15220 ex-15435. Thu RN 0949 not 7240. Thanks!

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by David K. Maxfield

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GLENN HAUSER
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